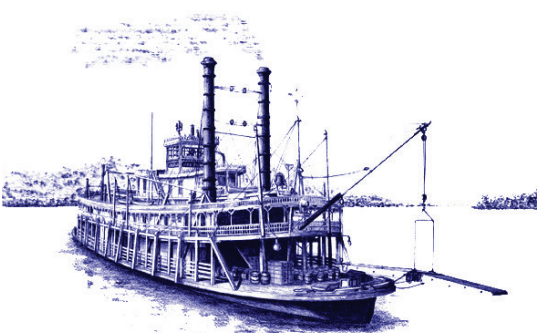
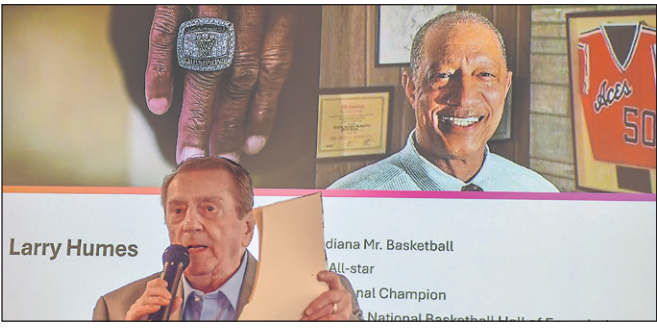






# THE MADISON COURIER

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025 *Serving the Courier area since 1837* NEWSSTAND • \$1.75



Board member Melissa Wolf carries the Madison Regatta Headquarters sign while evacuating the Regatta Headquarters on Vaughn Drive Friday. Based on the flood forecast, officials said the office will be under water up to its windows by the Ohio River's projected 458.5-foot crest on Friday.

## Widespread flooding

Ohio River to crest Tuesday at 458.5 feet; Kentucky River facing 'never seen' levels

**BY BOB DEMAREE**  
A week of repeated torrential rainfall has triggered widespread flooding throughout the region leading to an expected crest of the Ohio River on Tuesday at its highest level in almost three decades. The Ohio River at 2:30 p.m. Monday was 457.26 feet (above sea level) at the National Water Prediction Service Clifty Creek weather station and was expected to crest at 2 p.m. Tuesday at 458.5 feet — more than 7 feet about flood stage and more than a foot into the stage where moderate flooding begins. The water level is expected to surpass the level of the 2018 flood



The Madison Regatta Headquarters (left) at the corner of Mulberry Street and Vaughn Drive — evacuated on Friday and sandbagged on Saturday — was being swallowed up by flood waters on Sunday as floodwaters covered the Madison riverfront and surrounded cherry trees beginning their spring bloom along the riverwalk (right).

that reached 457.3 feet and fall just short of the 1997 flood that hit 460.9 feet. The highest ever flood crest at Madison was 475.9 feet during the historic 1937 Flood. The events that led to the current flooding began March 30 with

SEE **FLOODING/PAGE A7**

## OurSIRDA hits funding goal; project approvals on hold

**BY BOB DEMAREE**  
The threshold has been achieved for READI 2.0 grants to be received for award recipients from Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority but the wait for funding continues as the Indiana Economic Development Corporation must still give its approval. Cory Cochran, executive director of the OurSIRDA administrative firm River Hills Economic Development District Regional Planning Commission, said Friday at the RDA's monthly meeting that 65.1% of the region's \$50 million READI 1.0 funds has been spent, a requirement of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) in order to receive READI 2.0 funds. However, even though that criteria has been met, Cochran said the IEDC has not formally approved any of the 21 projects that OurSIRDA had awarded funds last fall. "They have not really given us a timeline when they will start approving READI 2 projects. Ideally, hopefully in the next month or two," said Cochran, noting that transition of a new Governor with a new administration is likely a factor in the delay in reviewing projects. Mike Braun was elected Indiana Governor to take office in January, replacing Gov. Eric Holcomb who had completed his two-term limit. With the new Braun administration, David J. Adams is the new Commerce Secretary and Jeff Blade is the new Executive Director of the IEDC. Kevin Kellems, Jefferson County's representative on the OurSIRDA board, said, "We are not sounding an alarm. What we have done here today is to provide you a factual update on the status of where things stand now, as well as adjust expectations on the timeline going forward. The bottom line is that transitions take time. We have a new, duly-elected Governor who appointed new people in key positions such as Secretary of Commerce and Executive Director of the IEDC. Change is inevitable because different leaders have different ideas about how to get things done. Regardless, we are very proud of what we have accomplished together with you to date, and we look forward to continuing doing so again soon." Last fall, OurSIRDA awarded READI 2.0 funds to three Jefferson County projects totaling \$8.5 million. The city of Madison was awarded \$3.5 million to create a permanent amphitheater at Bicentennial Park and \$2 million to develop housing on the former Madison Coal Company property now owned by the city at the east corner of Jefferson Street and Vaughn Drive. Jefferson County was awarded \$3 million for a Krueger Lake Campground at the former Jefferson Proving Ground. In other business, the region also finalized a contract with Tim George of Pathemey Strategies of Indianapolis as consultant in developing an arts and culture strategy for the region with funding through a \$100,000 Lilly Endowment grant.

## BPWS concerned over motorists ignoring barricades

**BY BOB DEMAREE**  
As the flooded Ohio River jumped its banks onto Vaughn Drive, city workers were placing barricades to block vehicles from traveling through flooded areas. However, many motorists drove around the barriers, a matter that was addressed at Monday's Board of Public Works and Safety meeting. Board member David Carlow said he was "astounded" at the number of people that disregarded the barricades and drove through them. "I actually saw people get out, move the barricade and drive through," Carlow said. "The barricades were there for a purpose, to keep people from driving on Vaughn Drive in dangerous conditions, yet people disrespect the situation" as if the barricade doesn't mean anything to them, and that it's for other people. "No, it's for everyone." Carlow said it's a problem that has happened at other times, citing work zones on Main Street in 2022. "The barricades are there for purpose," he noted. Mayor Bob Courtney said the closing of roads was part of the city's preparations Friday when an emergency declaration was issued. "It was so we could mobilize

our preparations. Closing roads is one of those so we could get to the areas affected with our crews, and also for those property owners who had to move substantial amounts of property in a period of time. It was to allow them a window of time to do so," Courtney said. "We started evacuating our campground on Wednesday, thankfully that went very smoothly .... When those barricades are there our crews are intentionally doing something behind those barricades, and it is also intended to keep everybody safe — the crews as well as citizens of our community." Courtney asked local residents

and other to respect the road closures for the safety of themselves and others. "Please heed all warnings. Just because you can see one portion of the road doesn't mean the next portion is going to be safe to travel." Chris Hale, the city's director of streets, facilities and solid waste, provided an update on mudslides impacting Hanover Hill on Sunday when the road was closed for a good portion of that day for cleanup. "It was a long day" for city workers repairing the mudslide "but we're glad to get it back open for the public." Hale said the mudslide was caused by hillside erosion that

moved a PVC pipe. He speculated that the hillside moved the pipe, slightly cracking it and causing the rest of the erosion. With the next few days forecast for dry weather, Hale said crews will continue addressing issues caused by the storms and prepare for what should be a massive cleanup after the water resides. "We're staying out, staying prepared and we're ready for when the water back goes down, and also to begin cleaning Vaughn Drive and the riverfront," Hale said. "The last five days, the county

SEE **BPWS/PAGE A3**



45

High

30

Low

Details, Page A2

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Records/A2 Sports/B1-6, B8

Classifieds/B5 Comics/A4-5

DEATHS, A3

Paisley Ernst Arnold Ford Marvin Geisler Frank Pearson

Joseph Ransdell Vicki Reffett Patsy Stewart Niles Taber



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**KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**  
KINDERGARTEN WILL NEED TO BRING:  
1. YOUR CHILD FOR PRE-REGISTRATION ASSESSMENTS.  
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3. COPY OF CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORDS.  
4. PROOF OF RESIDENCY VALID WITHIN LAST 60 DAYS.  
(EX: UTILITY BILL, BANK STATEMENT, OR PAYCHECK, ETC.)



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# Trump threatens more tariffs on China as global markets plunge

**BY CHRIS MEGERIAN**  
AND JOSH BOAK ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump threatened additional tariffs on China on Monday, raising fresh concerns that his drive to rebalance the global economy could lead to a trade war.

Trump’s threat, which he delivered on social media, came after China said it would retaliate against U.S. tariffs announced last week.

“If China does not withdraw its 34% increase above their already long term trading abuses by tomorrow, April 8th, 2025, the United States will impose ADDITIONAL Tariffs on China of 50%, effective April 9th,” he wrote on Truth Social. “Additionally, all talks with China concerning their requested meetings with us will be terminated!

Trump has remained defiant as the stock market continued plunging and fears of a recession grew.

“Be Strong, Courageous, and Patient, and GREATNESS will be the result!” he wrote.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 1,200 points as trading began on Monday morning, and the S&P 500 was on track to enter a bear market, which means falling 20% from a recent high. Even some of Trump’s allies are raising alarms about the economic damage, and financial forecasts suggest more pain on the horizon for U.S. businesses, consumers and investors.

The Republican president has insisted his tariffs are necessary to rebalance global trade and rebuild domestic manufacturing. He accused other countries of “taking advantage of the Good Ol’ USA!” on international trade and said “our past ‘leaders’ are to blame for allowing this.” He singled out China as “the biggest abuser of them all” and criticized Beijing for increasing its own tariffs in retaliation.

Trump also called on the Federal Reserve to lower interest rates. On Friday, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell warned that the tariffs could increase inflation, and he said “there’s a lot of waiting and seeing going on, including by us,” before any decisions would be made.

Investors expect the U.S. central bank to cut its benchmark interest rates at least four times by the end of this year, according to CME Group’s FedWatch, a sign that concerns about inflation will be eclipsed by fears of layoffs and a shrinking economy.

Trump spent the weekend in Florida, arriving on Thursday night to attend a Saudi-funded tournament at his Miami golf course. He stayed at Mar-a-Lago, his private club in Palm Beach, and golfed at two of his properties nearby.

On Sunday, he posted a video of himself hitting a drive, and he told reporters aboard Air Force One that evening that he won a club championship.

“It’s good to win,” Trump said. “You heard I won, right?”

He also said that he wouldn’t back down from his tariffs despite the turmoil in the global markets.

“Sometimes you have to take medicine to fix something,” Trump said.

Goldman Sachs issued a new forecast saying a recession has become more likely even if Trump backtracks from his tariffs. The financial firm said economic growth would slow dramatically “following a sharp tightening in financial conditions, foreign consumer boycotts, and a continued spike in policy uncertainty that is likely to depress capital spending by more than we had previously assumed.”

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said the European Union would focus on trade with other countries besides the United States, saying there are “vast opportunities” elsewhere.

Trump said he spoke with Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba to start trade negotiations. He complained on Truth Social “they have treated the U.S. very poorly on Trade” and “they don’t take our cars, but we take MILLIONS of theirs.”

Ishiba said he told Trump that he’s “strongly concerned” that tariffs would discourage investment from Japan, which has been the world’s biggest investor in the U.S. in the past five years. He described the situation as a “national crisis” and said that his government would negotiate with Washington to

urge Trump to reconsider the tariffs.

White House trade adviser Peter Navarro suggested countries would need to do much more than simply lower their own tariff rates to reach deals, saying they would have to make structural changes to their tax and regulatory codes.

“Let’s take Vietnam,” he said on CNBC. “When they come to us and say, ‘We’ll go to zero tariffs,’ that means nothing to us because it’s the non-tariff cheating that matters.”

On Monday, the president is scheduled to welcome the Los Angeles Dodgers to the White House to celebrate their World Series victory. He’s also meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and they’re expected to hold a joint press conference in the afternoon.

Trump has strived for a united front after the chaotic infighting of his first term. However, the economic turbulence has exposed some fractures within his disparate coalition of supporters.

Bill Ackman, a hedge fund manager, lashed out at Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick on Sunday as “indifferent to the stock market and the economy crashing.” He said Cantor Fitzgerald, the financial firm led by Lutnick before he joined the Trump administration, stood to profit because of bond investments.

On Monday, Ackman apologized for his criticism but reiterated

ated his concerns about Trump’s tariffs.

“I am just frustrated watching what I believe to be a major policy error occur after our country and the president have been making huge economic progress that is now at risk due to the tariffs,” he wrote on X.

Top White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett told Fox News Channel that Ackman should “ease off the rhetoric a little bit.”

He insisted that other countries, not the United States, are “going to bear the brunt of the tariffs.”

Billionaire Elon Musk, a top adviser to Trump on overhauling the federal government, expressed skepticism about tariffs over the weekend. Musk has said that tariffs would drive up costs for Tesla, his electric automaker.

“I hope it is agreed that both Europe and the United States should move ideally in my view to a zero tariff situation, effectively creating a free trade zone between Europe and North America,” Musk said in a video conference with Italian politicians.

He added, “That certainly has been my advice to the president.”

Navarro later told Fox News that Musk “doesn’t understand” the situation.

“He sells cars,” Navarro said. “That’s what he does.” He added that, “He’s simply protecting his own interests as any business person would do.”

## Hands Off protest



Bob Demaree

More than 100 people turned out in the rain for a Hands Off political protest on the Jefferson County Courthouse Square on Saturday in downtown Madison as part of a nationwide display of public resistance against the second administration of President Donald Trump. The event had been canceled locally due to inclement weather but protesters showed up anyway with signs and chants for about two hours.

## NEWS OF RECORD

**JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER LODGINGS**

**April 4, 2025**

Timothy D. Dean, 54, Scottsburg, Indiana, for Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor; on a Jefferson County

bench warrant; and on an unspecified warrant to hold for Scott County, Indiana. Bond \$500 cash.

Natalie Brook Hall, 61, Seymour, Indiana, on a warrant for probation violation. Bond \$1,000 cash.

William T. Hayes, 54, Lexington, Indiana, on a

Jefferson County probation violation warrant (Level 6 felony). Bond \$10,000 cash.

**April 5, 2025**

Brian Michael Elisha Skirvin, 25, Madison, for Criminal Recklessness and Domestic Battery both Level 6 felonies. No bond.

**April 6, 2025**

Ruben Taxtho Hilario, 22, Hanover, for Residential Entry, a Level 6 felony; Forgery-False Government Identification, a Class A misdemeanor; and Voyeurism, a Class B misdemeanor. Bond \$1,000 cash.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURT SENTENCINGS**

**April 3, 2025**

Dalton Dakota Rowlett, 26, Madison, for Public Intoxication, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail, all suspended to 365 days supervised probation, consecutive to 308 days suspended sentence for prior felony conviction (criminal recklessness) plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

**REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS JEFFERSON COUNTY**

**April 3, 2025**

Ralph D. Cart and

Diedre J. Cart to Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana Inc., 14234 and 1400+ West Mulberry Street, Deputy.

**April 4, 2025**

Sallie E. Plass and Richard E. Plass to Sallie Plass Living Trust and Sallie Elizabeth Plass, 613 West Second Street, Madison.

Barry M. Speer to Stanley K. Stewart, approximately 15 acres at 4010 and 4000+ West Interstate Block Road, Madison.

Stanley K. Stewart to Jason Smith and Melanie Smith, approximately 13.8 acres at 4000 West Interstate Block Road, Madison.



# THE MADISON COURIER

(USPS 325000)  
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**CLASSIFIED DEADLINES**  
2:30 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issue  
Noon Monday for Thursday issue  
Noon Thursday for Saturday issue

**VOL. 225 • ISSUE NO. 28**

## WEATHER

**Sunrise:** 7:13 a.m.  
**Sunset:** 8:13 p.m.  
**Temperature:** High 56, Low 26, Mean 41.0, Deficit 13.6  
**Precipitation since last published:** 6.82  
**Precipitation, April 2025:** 6.92 (revised)  
**Precipitation, 2025:** 23.29  
**Barometer:** 30.05, Steady  
**River Level at Clifty Creek:** 456.5 (7 a.m.), Rising (Projected crest 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 8 at 458.20-Moderate flooding)  
**Forecast:** Wednesday: Mostly cloudy High 56/Low 48; Thursday: Rain/Thunder High 65/Low 41; Friday: Mostly cloudy High 52/Low 36; Saturday: Partly cloudy High 56/ Low 37.

## LOTTERY

**INDIANA**  
**Hoosier Lotto:** 16-18-20-23-38-41 (4/5). Estimated Jackpot: \$1.6 million. Next Drawing (4/9).  
**Cash Five:** 15-21-26-30-42 (4/6)  
**Cash 4 Life:** 1-2-29-41-58 CB: 4 (4/6)

**KENTUCKY**  
**Cash Ball:** 14-22-29-32 CB 21 (4/6)  
**Lucky For Life:** 3-6-27-37-

40 LB: 1 (4/6)  
**MEGAMILLIONS:** 11-28-35-37-69 MB: 25, MP 2 (4/4). Next Jackpot: \$54 million. Next Drawing (4/8)  
**POWERBALL:** 4-23-30-46-62 PB: 2, PP 4 (4/5). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$54 million. Next Drawing (4/7)  
**POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY:** 10-16-20-48-51 PB: 5 (4/5). Next Estimated Jackpot: Up to \$10 million. Next Drawing (4/7)

## BIRTHDAYS

**Editor’s Note:** Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to [zelda@madisoncourier.com](mailto:zelda@madisoncourier.com) or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

**APRIL 11**  
Ben Flint  
David Wilhoite

**APRIL 12**  
Teresa Anderson

**APRIL 14**  
Randy Crutchfield

**APRIL 16**  
Rick Berry  
Jeff Burch  
Linda Wood

**APRIL 17**  
James Crisp

**APRIL 18**  
Erin Kindle

**APRIL 19**  
Laura Carr

**APRIL 20**  
Darlene Meadows

**APRIL 23**  
Devin Brierly  
Collin Overton



OBITUARIES

Arnold ‘Pete’ Ford



Arnold “Pete” Ford, age 93, of Deputy, IN, entered this life on May 26, 1931, in Jefferson County, IN, the son of the late John C. and Bertha Lawler Ford. He was a 1949 graduate of Deputy High School. He served his country in United States Army and was transferred to the National Guard for nine years and honorably discharged.

He was united in marriage to Evilee Moore on Sept. 13, 1967 in Madison, IN. He worked on the line at Cummins Engine Company in Columbus, IN, retiring after 30 years of service. He was a member of the Lick Branch Baptist Church near Deputy, IN, and attended the Commiskey Baptist Church. He enjoyed visiting with friends, and neighbors, going fishing, and raising a large garden. He enjoyed selling his produce from his garden from his front porch in Deputy. Pete died on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at 8:27 a.m. at the Norton Hospital in Louisville, KY.

Pete will be missed by his loving sons, Kenny Ford of Deputy, IN, Roger Ford and his

wife Doris of Dupont, IN; his step son, Rabon Barrett of Dayton, OH; his daughter in law, Erlena Ford Sellers of Commiskey, IN; his grandchildren, Charlie Napier, Emma Napier, Sarah Brown, Jon Ford, Johnny Ford, Patience Ford Howser and Clinton Ford; 12-great grandchildren, 5-great great grandchildren; several step grandchildren and step great grandchildren; his brother, John Ford, Jr. of Columbus, IN; his sister, Martha Jo Copper of Columbus, IN; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, John C. Ford, his mother, Bertha E. Lawler Ford, his wife of 42 years, Evilee Moore Ford, died Aug. 1, 2009, his

son, Gary Lynn Ford his daughter, Peggy Ford Case, his step son, Charles Barrett, his brothers, Wallace Ford, and Fred Ford.

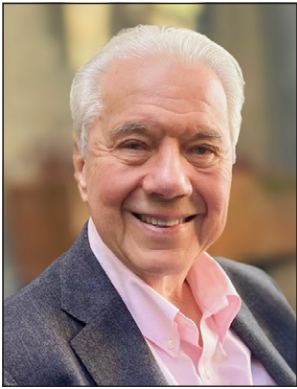
Funeral services will be conducted Friday, April 11, 2025, at 11 a.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN Interment will follow in the Pisgah Cemetery near Deputy, IN

Friends may visit Thursday, April 10, 2025, from 4 — 7 p.m. and Friday, April 11, 2025, from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

A final salute with military honors will be provided by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).

Joseph S. Ransdell



Joseph S. Ransdell passed away on Feb. 17th, 2025. Joe was the son of Charlie and Gladys Greenwood Ransdell, born Aug. 30th, 1941, in Madison, IN.

Joe is survived by his loving wife of 25 years, Margoth Ransdell of Ocala, FL, and two sons, Josh Ransdell of Honolulu, Hawaii, and Jonathan Ransdell of Greensboro, NC, one sister, Mary Ransdell Austin (Tom) of Ocala, FL, sister-in-law, Betty

Ransdell, niece Frederica Ransdell Congleton (Lee) of Bedford, KY, and nephew, Charles Ransdell

(Kim) of Louisville.

A memorial service will be held on April 12, 2025, at 2 p.m., at Ransdell Funeral Home, Bedford, KY.

A celebration of life will follow grave side service, to be held at General Butler State Resort Park. The family requests memorial contributions be made to a charity of your choosing.

Ransdell Funeral Home, Bedford, KY, is in charge of the arrangements.

DEATH NOTICES

**Paisley Wren Ernst, newborn**, Carrollton, KY, died Wednesday, April 2, 2025, in La Grange, KY, due to complications associated with being born prematurely to Austin and Britnee Maiden Ernst of Carrollton. A celebration of her short life will be held at a date to be announced. Arrangements by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, [www.tandyecklerrileyfuneral-home.com](http://www.tandyecklerrileyfuneral-home.com).

**Marvin G. Geisler, 72**, of Vevay, IN, died Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at his residence. Cremation was chosen with no services held at this time. Arrangements by Haskell and Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, [www.haskellandmorrison.com](http://www.haskellandmorrison.com).

**Frank L. Pearson, 72**, of Hanover, IN, died Sunday, April 6, 2025, at Norton Hospital in Louisville. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN,

[www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com).

**Vicki Rose Dean Reffett, 64**, of Madison, IN, died Saturday, March 31, 2025, at her home in Madison. Services were Monday, April 7, at Adams Family Funeral Homes & Crematory in Crothersville, IN, [www.adamsfuneral-homeonline.com](http://www.adamsfuneral-homeonline.com).

**Patsy C. McManis Stewart, 79**, Carrollton, KY, died Saturday, April 5, 2025, at her daughter’s home in Carrollton. Funeral Arrangements will be announced by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, [www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com).

**Niles Scott Taber, 77**, of Madison, IN, died Thursday, April 3, 2025, at his home near Madison. Cremation was chosen with a private family celebration of life. Arrangements by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover, IN, [www.morgan-nay.com](http://www.morgan-nay.com)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LENTEN WORSHIP & LUNCHEON

First Baptist Church, 416 Vine St., Madison on April 9 & 16, Noon.

Community Lenten Worship and Luncheon is being held each Wednesday at noon through April 16 leading up to Easter on Sunday, April 20. Luncheons are at First Baptist Church of Madison on April 9 and Trinity United Methodist Church on April 16. The lunches are sponsored by the Greater Madison Ministerial Association with a church hosting a devotion from a local pastor with free lunch to follow.

EVENTS

Art Party  
The SPOT, Madison Area Arts Alliance, 326 Mulberry St., Madison, on Friday, April 11, 5-8 p.m.

Three new gallery exhibits will be highlighted: Ordinary Wonders, art by Teresa Waller; Art is Instrumental, a collaboration between Crawdaddy Music and local artists; and Over the Rainbow, a celebration of Pride with various artists. Brief talks at 6 p.m.

Mertz Trio  
Presented by Madison Performing Arts Foundation

Fairfield Inn and Suites, Picker House, 110 St. Michaels Avenue, Madison on Friday, April 11, 7 p.m.

Pianist Fei-Fei, violinist Brigid Coleridge and cellist Julia Yang, Merz Trio present a narrative of classical music through wide-ranging interdisciplinary collaboration. The free event is sponsored by the Community Foundation of Madison and Jefferson County.

Brunch with the Bunny for Jane’s Kids  
River Terrace Health Campus, 120 Presbyterian Ave., 4th Floor on Saturday, April 12, 9-11 a.m.

A brunch and visit with the Easter Bunny fundraiser benefitting the Jane’s Kids non-profit supporting area youth. Food for children and adults, an opportunity for kids to have their picture taken with the Easter Bunny and live bunnies from area 4-H club members to see and hold. Tickets \$5 for children, \$10 adults available at the door or at River Valley Resources in the Clearing House, 100 E. Second St., Madison.

Disability Resource Fair  
Hanover Park, 200 Spruce Lane, Hanover on Saturday, April 26, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The 2nd annual Hanover

Disability Resource & More Fair will be held at the park with kids activities, free lunch by Kindness Jefferson County, prizes and an opportunity to meet with agencies and resources in support of those with disabilities, illnesses and addictions. For more info contact [jennndavid0705@gmail.com](mailto:jennndavid0705@gmail.com).

ACTIVITIES

Free Movie  
Hanover Baptist Church, 3894 West SR 56, Hanover on Sunday, April 13, 5 p.m.

Free movie night showing “The Forge,” a film by the Kendrick Brothers.  
Rummage Sale  
St. John’s United Church of Christ, 408 East St., Madison on Saturday, April 5, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, April 6, from 12-3 p.m.

Spring rummage sale including snacks, baked sale items and drinks available.  
Hanover Easter Egg Hunt  
Hanover Community Park, 200 Spruce Lane, Hanover, on Saturday, April 12, 11 a.m.

The event will include a visit by the Easter Bunny and giveaways.  
Norton MyChart  
Community Sign-up Session  
Norton Community Medical Associates, Hilltop lobby on

Norton King’s Daughters’ Health campus, 1373 East State Road 62, Madison  
Thursday, April 17, 4 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

No appointment is needed. Representatives from Norton Healthcare will be available to help interested patients sign up for a Norton MyChart account and/or answer questions about Norton MyChart. Attendees are encouraged to bring their personal phone or mobile device if they would like assistance setting up an account. Norton MyChart gives Norton Healthcare patients convenient, secure online access to portions of their medical record any time day or night.

BLOOD DRIVES

Brushy Fork Baptist Church  
12840 North Brushy Fork Church Road, Canaan on Tuesday, April 15, 1-6 p.m.

Jefferson County Public Library  
420 West Main St., Madison on Thursday, April 17, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Appointment times may be scheduled before arriving at the Library by calling 800-733-2767, going to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), or downloading the Blood Donor App.

FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

Salvation Army Food Bank  
Located at 331 East Main St. on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 12-1 p.m.

A food giveaway at the red door on east side of building. Bring your own bags.

For more information, call 812-265-2157.

House of Hope Food Pantry  
Located at 100 East 2nd St., Madison on Tuesdays from 5-7 p.m. and Fridays from 9-11 a.m.

A food giveaway and distribution at the Jefferson County House of Hope Food Pantry in downtown Madison. Please arrive at the pantry 15 minutes prior to closing to be served.

CLOTHING DISTRIBUTIONS

Jesus Clothes Closet  
Trinity United Methodist Church at 412 W. Main St., Madison on Mondays, 9-11 a.m.

Jesus Clothes Closet distributes free clothing to those in need. For more information, call 812-866-4843.

SENIOR EVENTS

Hanover Senior Citizens Center  
Exercising: The Hanover

Senior Citizens Program is offering free exercising at the Hanover Park Community Center on Mondays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Lunch: The Hanover Senior Citizens Program is serving lunch at noon on Fridays at the Hanover Park Community Center.

Cost is \$5 and RSVP is required by calling 812-498-2894.

Madison Senior Citizens Center  
Senior Meals: Lifetime Resources will be providing congregate meals at the Madison Senior Center, 208 West Main St. on Tuesday and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Meals are free for anyone over age 60 with a suggested donation of \$6. Meals are \$6 for anyone under age 60.

Game Days: The Madison Senior Citizens Center hosts weekly card days and Bingo at the Senior Citizens Center in downtown Madison.

The schedule includes Euchre on Mondays and Thursdays from noon until 10 games are completed and Bingo on Tuesday, 10-11:30 a.m.

The games are free and open to senior citizens.

BPWS

FROM PAGE A1

and city collaboration has been phenomenal,” said Courtney. “... Madison, you’re safe because of our great men and women that are part of that emergency response. All volunteerism, neighbors helping neighbors, was also fantastic to witness.”

In other business:

- Council member Carla Krebs presented a petition from residents requesting the removal of two speed bumps on First Street between Harrison Street and St. Michaels Avenue.
- “I don’t have a dog in the fight. I’m just being a representative of the people,” said Krebs, noting that

even though she’s the District 2 Council representative while the area is located in District 1 represented by Patrick Thevenow. “If someone in the community comes to me with a concern, I feel it is my duty to bring it to their attention” for the BPWS to do what it wants.

Charles Bersch, 204 St. Michaels Ave., lives next to one of the speed bumps where the alley adjoins the back of his property at First Street. “The speed bump is right before the alley,” he said, noting that to exit his driveway he must back out onto First Street. Without the speed bump, motorists will speed through that section, creating a danger as he backs out of his drive.

Jan Vetrus, who lives

nearby at the corner of Baltimore and Second streets, said she frequently walks on that street. “The main problem why we need a speed bump there is because that hill is so steep” with a side-walk on one side. Also, with the Fairfield Inn and Suites nearby, it has created more pedestrian traffic in that area. “Please keep that speed bump there.”

Thevenow said the matter was discussed at the last traffic committee meeting, and the consensus by Council members Lucy Dattilo and Jim Bartlett was a need to remove the speed bumps.

Carlow said he travels through there frequently and would support keeping the speed bump near Bersch’s property

where there’s a hill, but also support taking out the other bump that’s between two stop signs on the top of the hill.

“We’re not making any decisions today,” said Courtney, recommending those seeking input to contact their Council representative or come to the Monday, April 21, BPWS meeting.

- Approved three SRF disbursement requests on the city’s water infrastructure project — \$84,798 to MW Cole Construction for water tanks and towers, \$45,920 for water treatment plants and \$172 to Commonwealth Engineers. One of the projects by MW Cole has been delayed. “They were going to drain the hillside tank and we really didn’t want

to do that with the flood.”

- Hale updated on an inspection of the city’s transfer station by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). “There were no major findings. There was an opportunity for improvement for the documentation for backup workers, so that’s something that we’ve already worked to take care of.” He said Chad Pittman said the Madison transfer facility “is one of the nice facilities that he inspects.”
- Hale said plans have been finalized with Jacobi Toombs Lanz for remodeling, construction and improvements to the Transfer Station Operations (TSO) that includes structural improvements, fencing, concrete and paint-

ings. “It is definitely going to enhance the usability and the look of the TSO,” he said.

- Code enforcement officer Duey O’Neal said last week he submitted the city’s Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) report to the IDEM and received confirmation back that it had been received, and no deficiencies were found. “We are in compliance ... and hopefully it will continue going forward this year.”
- Approved a contract for the Independence Day Fireworks Show to be held Saturday, July 5 at a cost of \$30,000 by Zambelli Fireworks Manufacturing Company.
- Approved street closings for the Molly Dattilo 5K Run/Walk on May 10.

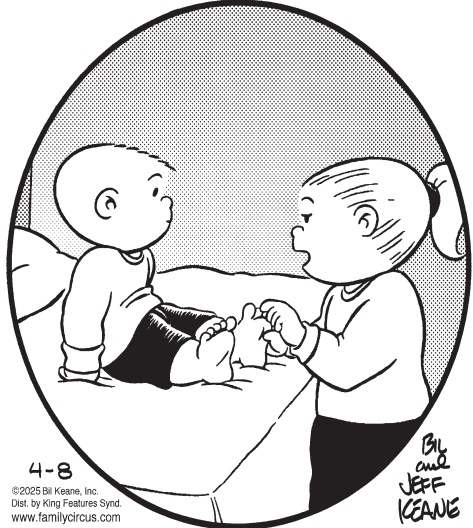
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

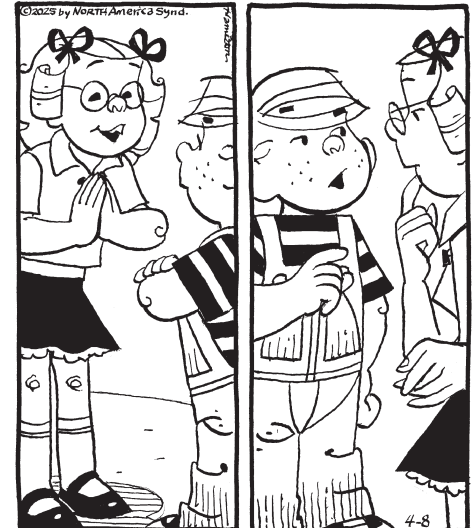


4-8

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"This little pig had roast potato ... he was a vegetarian."

DENNIS THE MENACE



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"I SAW A MOVIE WHERE A GUY MARRIES THE GIRL NEXT DOOR."

"YOUR MOM LETS YOU WATCH HORROR MOVIES?"

4-8

ARCTIC CIRCLE



ISN'T IT GREAT TO BE OUT IN NATURE, KID?

HEY, CAN YOU HEAR US?

HE'S WEARING NOISE-CANCELING EARPHONES.

BUT HE WON'T BE ABLE TO HEAR THE BIRDS.

I THINK THAT'S THE POINT.

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BIZARRO



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This is the amazing view people rave about?

Meh.

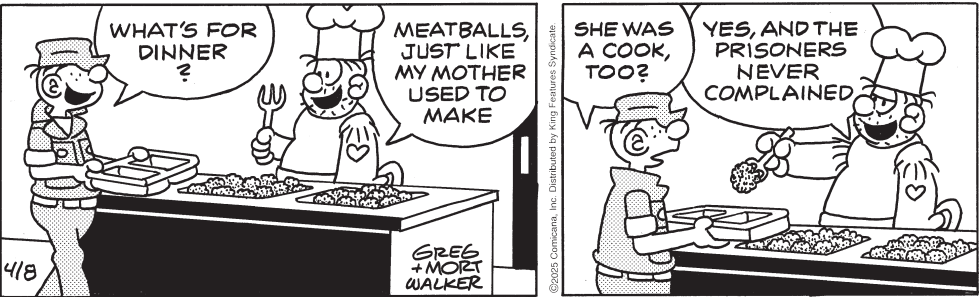
Waymo® P & S TIRRO. 4-8-25

BIZARRO.COM

THE BLAND TETONS

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BEETLE BAILEY



WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

MEATBALLS, JUST LIKE MY MOTHER USED TO MAKE

SHE WAS A COOK, TOO?

YES, AND THE PRISONERS NEVER COMPLAINED

4-8

GREG + MOBY WALKER

RHYMES WITH ORANGE



MODERN BANKING

THEY KNOW TOO MUCH.

CHECKING ACCOUNT

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

UNDER MATTRESS

SOCK

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BLONDIE



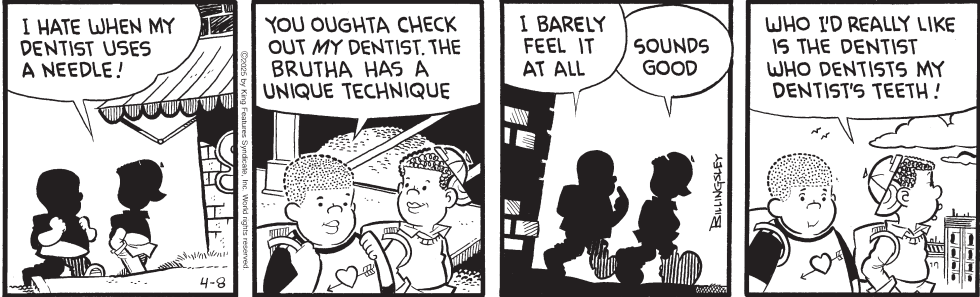
DO YOU KNOW WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU GAVE ME A RAISE?

AUGUST 2, 2010

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING BACK THEN

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CURTIS



I HATE WHEN MY DENTIST USES A NEEDLE!

YOU OUGHTA CHECK OUT MY DENTIST. THE BRUTHA HAS A UNIQUE TECHNIQUE

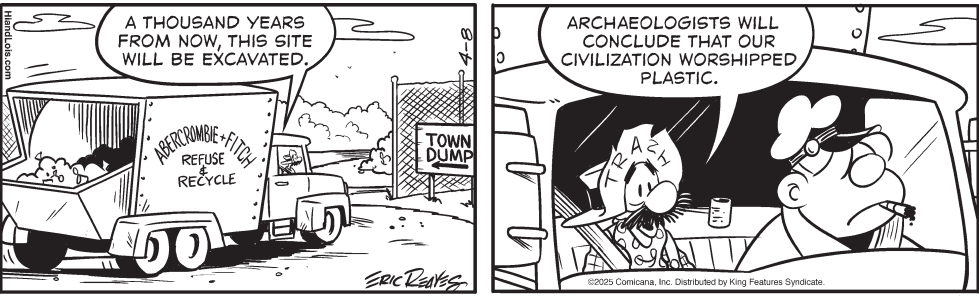
I BARELY FEEL IT AT ALL

SOUNDS GOOD

WHO I'D REALLY LIKE IS THE DENTIST WHO DENTISTS MY DENTIST'S TEETH!

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HI & LOIS



A THOUSAND YEARS FROM NOW, THIS SITE WILL BE EXCAVATED.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS WILL CONCLUDE THAT OUR CIVILIZATION WORSHIPPED PLASTIC.

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PARDON MY PLANET



AND THAT'S THE EVENING NEWS. BE SURE TO FOLLOW US ONLINE WHERE WE GIVE HINTS AS TO WHICH STORIES WE MADE UP THIS MORNING.

LEE ©2025 Vic Lee. Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc. 4-8

ZITS



THEY SAID OUR MODEM IS KAPUT.

WHAT DO WE DO?

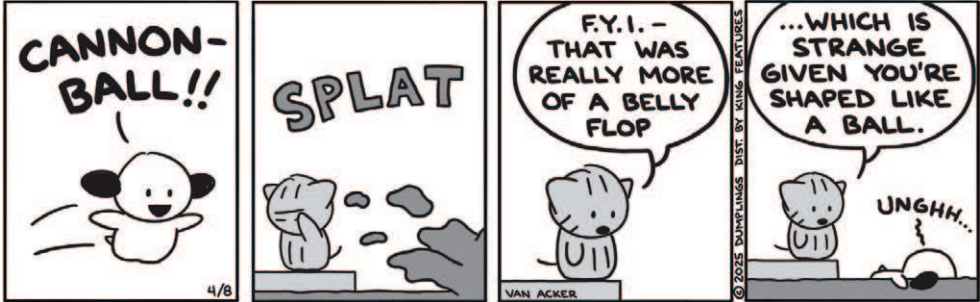
I GUESS WE WAIT UNTIL THE NEW ONE GETS HERE IN THREE OR FOUR DAYS.

A LITTLE BREAK FROM THE INTERNET MIGHT BE GOOD FOR US.

9-1-1. WHAT'S YOUR EMERGENCY?

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DUMPLINGS



CANNON-BALL!!

SPLAT

F.Y.I. - THAT WAS REALLY MORE OF A BELLY FLOP

...WHICH IS STRANGE GIVEN YOU'RE SHAPED LIKE A BALL.

UNGH...

©2025 DUMPLINGS. DIST. BY KING FEATURES

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



PSSTT! PSSTT!

UNIVERSALLY ADMIRER PHIMAS ISHAC

IF I ASK YOU ONE QUESTION, WOULD YOU CONSIDER IT AN OFFICE VISIT?

IF THAT WAS YOUR QUESTION, THEN NO.

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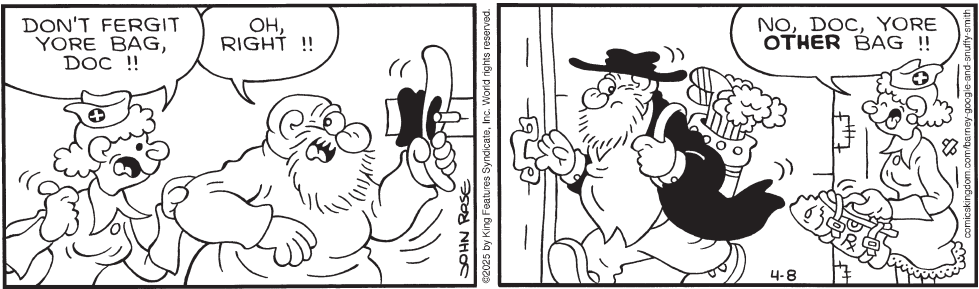
SIX CHIX



THIS IS MY SAFE SPACE.

©2025 BERNA MUNIER. 04/08/25  
SIX CHIX ©2025 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, INC.

BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



DON'T FERGIT YORE BAG, DOC !!

OH, RIGHT !!

NO, DOC, YORE OTHER BAG !!

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SALLY FORTH



WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN WRITE A NOVEL, SON?

I MEAN, YOU BARELY MAKE IT THROUGH YOUR JOB EVERY DAY! AND NOW SUDDENLY YOU THINK YOU HAVE THE MENTAL STAMINA TO WRITE A WHOLE BOOK?

ALSO, DON'T START YOUR NOVEL WITH A DREAM SEQUENCE. YOU'LL LOSE THE READER THE MOMENT THEY FIND OUT IT'S NOT REAL.

THIS IS JUST A FIRST DRAFT... MY SIXTH FIRST DRAFT.

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DUSTIN



PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MILLIONAIRES AND BILLIONAIRES.

A MILLION SECONDS IS UNDER 12 DAYS. A BILLION SECONDS IS ALMOST 32 YEARS.

WOW...

...SO MY BANK ACCOUNT WOULD SPAN ABOUT TEN MINUTES.

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MUTTS



OH, MY "LI'L EARL" WAS VERY HARD TO TRAIN.

HIM!!

YESH! I HAD TO SHOW HIM WHO'S THE BOSS!

HE'S A TOUGH GUY!

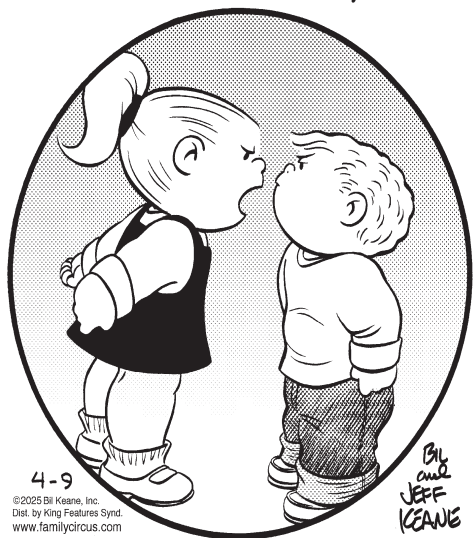
SURE...HE THINKS HE'S THE "ALPHA SHNAIL".

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

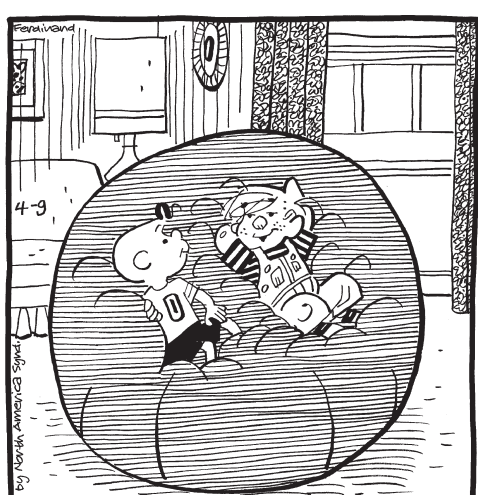


4-9

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"Yeah, well, you may have a better remembry than me, but I TALK gooder!"

DENNIS THE MENACE



4-9

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"IT'S LIKE A CHAIR WITHOUT ANY BONES!"

ARCTIC CIRCLE



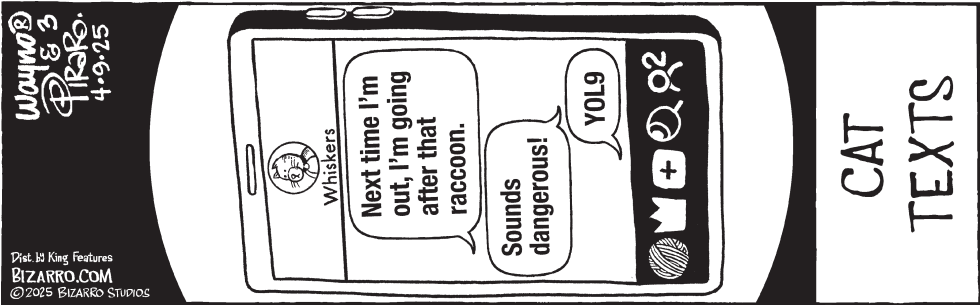
WHY DO KIDS BRING MUSIC INTO NATURE?

WE DIDN'T GROW UP LIKE THAT.

OUR FIRST INTERACTION WITH NATURE WASN'T VIA THE NAT GEO CHANNEL WITH DOLBY SURROUND SOUND.

4-9

BIZARRO



Whiskers

Next time I'm going out, I'm going after that raccoon.

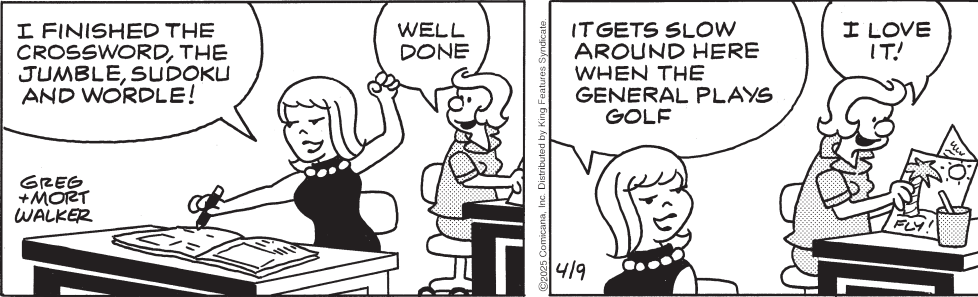
Sounds dangerous!

YOL9

CAT TEXTS

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BIZARRO.COM  
©2025 BIZARRO STUDIOS

BEETLE BAILEY



I FINISHED THE CROSSWORD, THE JUMBLE, SUDOKU AND WORDLE!

WELL DONE

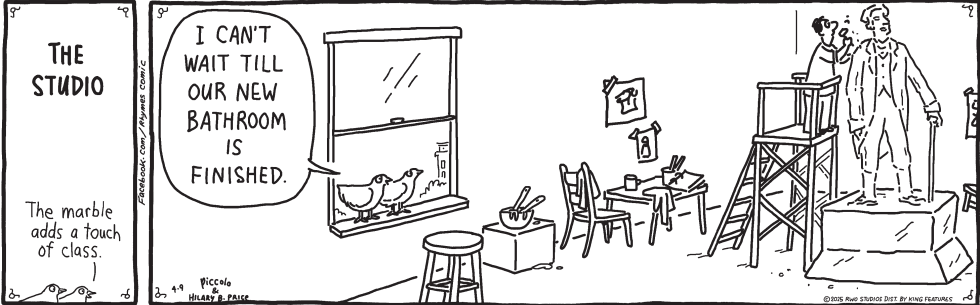
IT GETS SLOW AROUND HERE WHEN THE GENERAL PLAYS GOLF

I LOVE IT!

4/9

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RHYMES WITH ORANGE



THE STUDIO

The marble adds a touch of class.

I CAN'T WAIT TILL OUR NEW BATHROOM IS FINISHED.

4-9

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BLONDIE



HOW ARE OUR TAXES LOOKING SO FAR, HONEY?

DO YOU WANT THE GOOD NEWS OR THE BAD NEWS FIRST?

THE GOOD NEWS

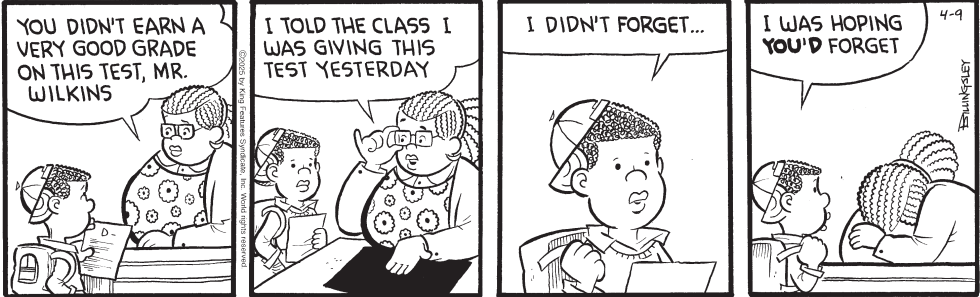
THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THE BAD NEWS COULD BE A LOT WORSE THAN IT IS

I LOVE IT!

4-9

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CURTIS



YOU DIDN'T EARN A VERY GOOD GRADE ON THIS TEST, MR. WILKINS

I TOLD THE CLASS I WAS GIVING THIS TEST YESTERDAY

I DIDN'T FORGET...

I WAS HOPING YOU'D FORGET

4-9

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HI & LOIS



CLAP CLAP CLAP

YOU FORGOT TO TAKE A BOW!

4-9

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PARDON MY PLANET



I'D LOVE TO HAVE KIDS, BUT I'M NOT SURE WE'RE MATURE ENOUGH OR FINANCIALLY CAPABLE. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW EXPENSIVE CHILDCARE IS AT A TAYLOR SWIFT CONCERT?

4-9

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ZITS



I CAN'T BELIEVE THE WI-FI IS DOWN!

HONEY, IT'S FINE.

THERE WAS NO INTERNET IN THE EIGHTIES AND LOOK HOW WE TURNED OUT!

WELL, AT LEAST YOU MADE HIM LAUGH.

ARE YOU SURE THAT WAS LAUGHTER?

4-9

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DUMPLINGS



THIS IS YOUR IDEA OF FUN?.. ROLLING AROUND IN MUD?

I'M MAKING MUD ANGELS.

UGH - MUD ANGELS - YOU'RE SO DISGUSTING.

HEY - THAT'S RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

4-9

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



YOU SURE ADOPT A LOT OF ANIMALS!

YES! BUT ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

IN THAT CASE, DON'T ANSWER THE DOOR!

BARK!

4-9

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SIX CHIX



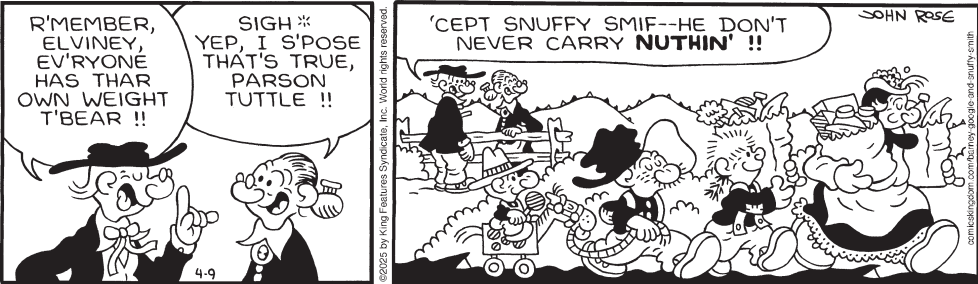
I TAKE PRIDE IN MY APPEARANCE--SO FAR I'VE HAD BUTT, BREAST, CHEEK AND CALF IMPLANTS.

PERHAPS YOU SHOULD HAVE STARTED WITH A BRAIN IMPLANT.

4-9

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BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



R'MEMBER, ELVINEY, EV'RYONE HAS THAR OWN WEIGHT T'BEAR !!

SIGH \* YES, I S'POSE THAT'S TRUE, PARSON TUTTLE !!

CEPT SNUFFY SMIF--HE DON'T NEVER CARRY NUTHIN' !!

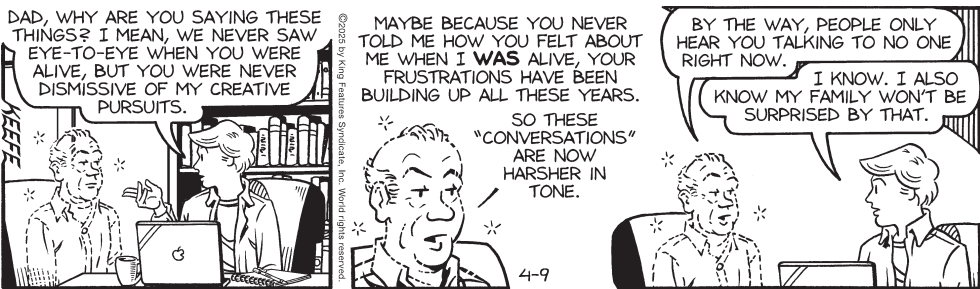
CEPT SNUFFY SMIF--HE DON'T NEVER CARRY NUTHIN' !!

SIGH \* YES, I S'POSE THAT'S TRUE, PARSON TUTTLE !!

4-9

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SALLY FORTH



DAD, WHY ARE YOU SAYING THESE THINGS? I MEAN, WE NEVER SAW EYE-TO-EYE WHEN YOU WERE ALIVE, BUT YOU WERE NEVER DISMISSIVE OF MY CREATIVE PURSUITS.

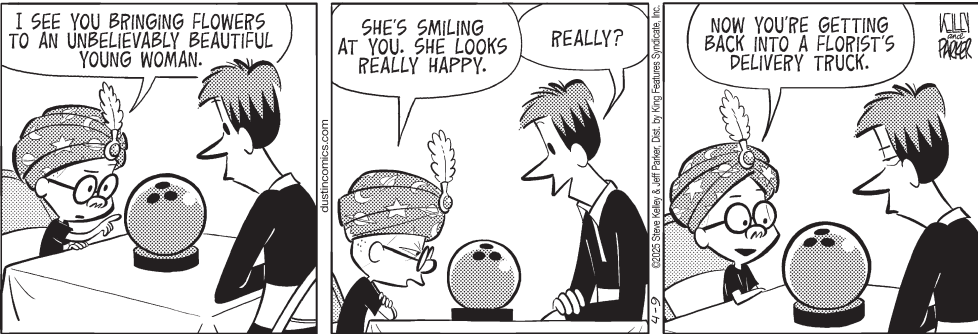
MAYBE BECAUSE YOU NEVER TOLD ME HOW YOU FELT ABOUT ME WHEN I WAS ALIVE, YOUR FRUSTRATIONS HAVE BEEN BUILDING UP ALL THESE YEARS. SO THESE "CONVERSATIONS" ARE NOW HARsher IN TONE.

BY THE WAY, PEOPLE ONLY HEAR YOU TALKING TO NO ONE RIGHT NOW. I KNOW. I ALSO KNOW MY FAMILY WON'T BE SURPRISED BY THAT.

4-9

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DUSTIN



I SEE YOU BRINGING FLOWERS TO AN UNBELIEVABLY BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN.

SHE'S SMILING AT YOU. SHE LOOKS REALLY HAPPY.

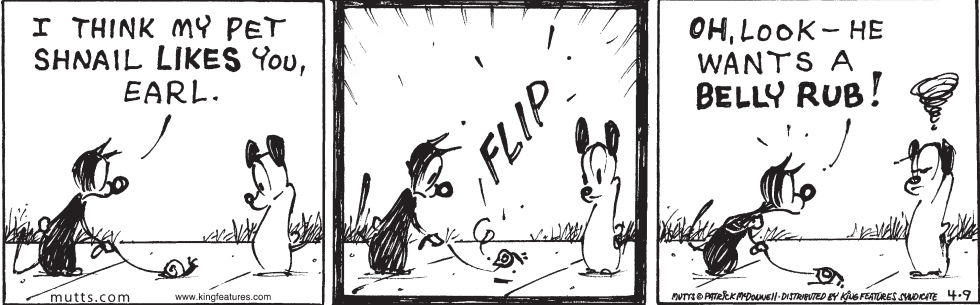
REALLY?

NOW YOU'RE GETTING BACK INTO A FLORIST'S DELIVERY TRUCK.

4-9

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MUTTS



I THINK MY PET SHMAIL LIKES YOU, EARL.

FLIP!

OH, LOOK - HE WANTS A BELLY RUB!

4-9

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# Madison Theatre to stage ‘Hadestown’ this weekend

**BY BOB DEMAREE**

The sung-through musical, “Hadestown: Teen Edition,” will be performed this weekend at Madison Consolidated High School’s Opal Sherman Auditorium.

“Hadestown” is a Tony-award winning musical with music and lyrics by Anais Mitchell that follows two intertwining love stories that run parallel, drawing inspiration from the 1930s depression-era America with references to New Orleans, bringing music that combine blues, jazz and folk.

Several Madison Theatre students saw a theater production of “Hadestown” two years ago, and came away wishing they could perform it.

“A lot of us fell in love with it, and saw how good of a story it was,” said Xander Bauer, a junior, who plays the role of Hades. “We just thought it would be a great story to perform with lots of great songs. It’s a one-of-a-kind story.”

“Hadestown” is still being performed on Broadway, and only just recently became available for high school students to perform, so students who saw the stage production are thrilled that they can perform this weekend at Opal Sherman Auditorium. Shows are Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Gabby Vest, a junior who portrays Persephone, Hades’ wife, was also with the group that saw the theater production, and said she was “captivated” by it. “The setting and the music and the way they fit the original story in this 1930s New Orleans. It’s so well done. I fell in love with when I saw it, so I was very excited when I found out we were going to get to do it.”

“To us, this is a big name,” said Emma Wynn, a senior. “Everyone in the theater world knows ‘Hadestown’ but not everyone in Madison knows what ‘Hadestown’ is, but it’s worth it. It’s different from what we’ve done, but I think we’ll do it just as well.”

Wynn is one of three who



The Madison Theatre cast that will perform “Hadestown: Teen Edition” this weekend at Madison Consolidated High School’s Opal Sherman Auditorium including Adavious Gigax as Hermes (front left) and Owain Kelsey and Zuzu Bailey as Orpheus and Eueydice (front right).

perform as Fates, the other two being Reilly Kuppler and Sophia Reilmann. The Fates are a trio of goddesses, Atropos, Lachesis, and Clotho, who serve as the symbolic conscience of the main characters that include Orpheus, Eurydice, Hades and Persephone.

Orpheus is portrayed by Owain Kelsey, a sophomore, while Eurydice is portrayed by Zuzu Bailey, also a sophomore, are a version of the Greek myth of Opheus and Eurydice.

“It’s the story of two stories put together,” said Kelsey. “It’s the story of Hades and Persephone that runs parallel with the story of Orpheus and Eurydice.”

Bailey said, “This a very beautiful story that is told in a unique way.”

Reilmann said production will be the last that theater students will be able work with Teresa Grayson, choral director for Madison Junior and Senior High Schools, who is retiring at the end of this

school year. “We wanted to work with her one more time before she’s leaving us, sadly,” said Reilmann, a sophomore.

Adavious Gigax plays the role of the Greek god, Hermes. Others in the production perform as workers — David Corral, Chelsea Dattilo, Anna Guzman, Savannah Hall, Tyler Hook, Kolton Lock, Fiona Magrath, Olivia Russell, Maya Bullock, Cooper Chandler, Piper Fischmer, Molly Gobbel, Avery Clayton, Sophis Guirguis, Jenna Renfrow, Shealynn

Sever, Katelynn Sharfe and Luise Suppinger. Also, Bullock and Fischmer are dance captains.

Also, Aaron Kelsey is the director, Melanie Torline is the assistant director and Grayson is the musical director.

Online tickets at [www.madisontheatrein.com](http://www.madisontheatrein.com) are \$14 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets at the door are \$17 for adults and \$7 for students. For the two matinee 2:30 p.m. performances, adults tickets are \$4 off.

# Farmers fear tariffs could cost them huge China market

**BY JOSH FUNK**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OMAHA, Neb. — Heading into this year, most U.S. farmers were hoping to break even or maybe record a small profit if they could find a way to limit their sky-high costs. But now they are faced with losing the biggest export market for many of their crops after China retaliated against President Donald Trump’s tariffs.

“There’s just not any margin for error in the current farm economy,” said Kentucky farmer Caleb Ragland, who serves as president of the American Soybean Association.

Soybean and sorghum farmers have particular reason to worry because at least half of those crops are exported and China has long been the biggest buyer. China has also bought a lot of American corn, beef, chicken and other crops as part of spending \$24.65 billion on U.S. agricultural products last year. Now with China slapping 34% tariffs on all American products Friday — on top of other tariffs it

imposed earlier this year — all of those products will be significantly more expensive in China.

Crop prices, much like the stock market, dropped after Trump announced his tariffs earlier this week.

Tim Dufault, whose farm is in northwest Minnesota only about 80 miles south of Canada, said in a good year soybean farmers might make \$50 to \$75 an acre. But this isn’t a good year because crop prices aren’t high enough to cover soaring costs, and the price drop in the past two days cost them about \$25 an acre, he said.

Dufault said he is worried that these new tariffs might put many farmers out of business, including the young farmers he rented his land to heading into this year as he retired because they likely won’t make anything in 2025.

“I just I hope to God they can stay in business,” said Dufault, who is active with the Farmers for Free Trade group that pushes for open markets.

One of the biggest long-term concerns is that

American farmers and ranchers will lose market share as China turns to Brazil and other countries to buy the soybeans, beef, chicken and other crops it consumes. China will buy lots of sorghum because it is distilled into the drink baijiu that is as popular there as whiskey is in the United States, but they will get it from other countries.

Farmers endured Trump’s previous trade war with China during his first term. But this time, Trump’s tariffs extend around the globe, so China likely won’t be the last country to retaliate with tariffs of its own.

Could farmers get government aid?

The only way most farmers survived Trump’s last trade war was with tens of billions of government aid payments, but it’s not clear if he will do that this time. He gave them more than \$22 billion in aid payments in 2019 and nearly \$46 billion in 2020, though that year also included aid related to the COVID pandemic.

Agriculture Secretary

Brooke Rollins told Fox News this week that right now she doesn’t believe massive aid payments will be necessary, although she won’t know that for several months. “But if it is, then this president has always said and he is resolute in his commitment to our farmers and our ranchers and our great rural communities in America, so we will we’ll make sure we’re ready if in fact that is necessary,” she said.

“But none of us like that,” said farmer Andy Hineman, who is vice president of the Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association. “We don’t want to live on government handouts. We’d rather sell the

crops we grow.”

But farmer Bryant Kagay, part owner of Kagay farms in Amity, Missouri, said he doesn’t “have a lot of faith that these tariffs — the way they are laid out today — will stick around long term.”

He also doesn’t like the idea of getting aid from the government.

“I really hate that seems to be the solution that, well, we’ll just pay farmers some just off-the-cuff payment to help offset this,” Kagay said. “I think a federal government that’s vastly overspending today, like this is not the way to solve that problem.”

The hope for farmers is

that Trump’s tariffs will lead to negotiations with other countries that will lower tariffs and other trade barriers.

“That’s the type of positive development that we can do that’s good for everybody involved, and that’s what we need to look for,” Ragland said. “Instead of beating each other up with higher and higher tariffs — it’s just like punching each other in the face. We’re not going to gain anything from it. It’s just going to cause us to hurt. That would be my encouragement to the administration, is to look for opportunities and get some great deals done proactively.”

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A canoeist paddles among the street signs and lamp posts Monday afternoon while navigating the flooded Ohio River on Vaughn Drive in downtown Madison, Indiana.

# FLOODING

FROM **PAGE A1**

a saturating rainfall followed by heavy thunderstorms on Wednesday, April 2 and Thursday, April 3 when most of the Courierarea received more than 5 inches of rainfall from a storm front that was dumping, in many cases, even more precipitation throughout the Ohio Valley.

“Our weather sirens were activated several times Wednesday night and we haven’t stopped since then. We really haven’t,” said Madison Mayor Bob Courtney on Sunday morning. “This is our fifth day, and we’ve seen everything. Tornadoes, then severe rain and thunderstorms, then the flash flooding, the mudslides and now freezing temperatures” that are forecasted for Tuesday.

On Friday afternoon, heavy rain temporarily closed Hanging Rock Hill when water blasted powerfully off the hanging rock, opening back up when it was safe. The same thunderstorm also created brief concerns about Crooked Creek that in June of 2021 flooded Walnut Street. The water level was approaching danger levels, pushing the boundaries of flash flooding but the rain stopped, and the water level went back down.

Courtney credited work the city has been doing to mitigate Crooked Creek flooding, citing the detention pond behind Shoppes at Sunrise Crossing and work to clear debris and vegetation from the creek channel, making sure drains are open, and closely monitoring water levels. “Being proactive really helps,” he said, adding, “We know we’re on the right path” towards better mitigating Crooked Creek flooding.

“We deployed equipment and barricades. We deployed a bunch of equipment we knew we would need if we had flash flooding, and all preemptive stuff, all of the planning, it all worked and paid off, and we had a 24-hour flood watch happening so that we would know immediately if it breached its banks we could respond immediately. The other thing we also did on Friday was we took notices to all the affected areas and asked them to voluntarily evacuate so if there was a flash flood we could get into the area and assist those who were unable to leave.” He



Barricades and emergency vehicles were used to block KY 36 in downtown Milton beginning Sunday night after nearby high water flooded the roadway and left that route to Carrollton impassable.

said a temporary shelter was also opened at the Salvation Army as a precaution.

“The county, the city, the EMA (Emergency Management Agency), the Sheriff’s office all work really well together for good communication for the residences in taking care of the properties in impacted areas,” he said.

On Sunday, Hanover Hill was closed due to a mudslide that was repaired and opened later that day. Meanwhile, the Ohio River, swollen from a regional deluge, was rising fast and starting to cause flooding on Vaughn Drive and in Kiwanis Park. Courtney said there is some concern the water could reach Brown Gym. “If it does get in the Brown Gym, we’re going to be working to clean everything. We’ve already moved property that could potentially get damaged.”

Sandbags were placed at the entrance of Crystal Beach Aquatic Park where Courtney said all electrical components have been removed. If the flood waters reach the pool, he said it will have to be cleaned and the water will drain out. The Madison Regatta Headquarters at Vaughn Drive and Mulberry Street was evacuated Friday and fortified with sandbags Saturday before being surrounded by water on Sunday.

Sandbags were given out at the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office and Criminal Justice Center on Saturday. Sheriff Ben Flint said about 1,500 sandbags were distributed, after being bagged up by inmates.

The community of Brooksbury east of Madison — already dealing with road closures due to a slide on State Road 56 — was completely cutoff by water Monday as State Road 56, East Old State Road 56 and East Doe Run Road are all blocked by flood water.

Flooding has had an even greater impact in Carroll County, a community vulnerable to both Ohio River and Kentucky River flooding. A nursing home in Sanders was evacuated Friday with residents relocated to Kysoc Camp in Carrollton and mandatory evacuations in Prestonsville, Happy Hollow in Worthville and several other low lying areas along the Kentucky River were ordered on Sunday after a Carroll County Deputy Judge-Executive Michael Humphrey warned that a “significant flooding event of which history has never seen” was expected over the next few days due to a planned release of water upriver at the Dix Dam generating station located between Mercer and Garrard counties in Kentucky

“If you fail to evacuate, there is no guarantee in that resources exist that will provide for your rescue,” Humphrey said in an order and video posted on Facebook.

There was a brief scare that the release of water at the Dix Dam was accidental and unplanned, creating some panic concerning the evacuations. LG&E and Kentucky Utilities announced on social media that reports that 10 gates were inadvertently opened were inaccurate; that spill gates were opened Friday in a controlled fashion according to dam safety procedures and flow from Herrington Lake subsided starting Sunday morning with gates in the process of being closed later Sunday.

Carrollton Mayor Robb Adams, who had released a video, concerning the Dix Dam situation followed up with another video to correct and clarify his earlier statement. “All I did was pass along what we had at the time. All I’m doing now is passing along clear information that we have received from the same source,” he said.



Mark Campbell

Milton Christian Church — and School Hollow Road — were already cut off by high water on Friday but by Sunday the entire highway from Milton to Carrollton was closed due to high water in downtown Milton and at the intersection of U.S. 42 and KY 36. The Milton-Madison Bridge remained open with people traveling between Carrollton and Madison detoured on U.S. 421 to I-71 to KY 227.

with a closing due to road slippage 4.6 mile east of Madison, is also closed at East Park Avenue. Hanover Beach is also flooded along with Brooksbury.

Carroll County on Monday listed road closures on Old Carlisle Road Old Gilgal Rd at Sheehan Road, Point Park, KY 36 East in the 1400 block, KY 467 at Buffalo Road and Jackson Ridge, Water Street, Goose Creek Road KY 227 and Skendall Road, Hampton Lane, Mill Creek

KY 55 at Mound Hill and KY 389 and KY 55, Notch Lick Road, Happy Hollow, Blue Lick Road, Second Street, 2300 block of Lock Road, Lock No. 1 Road, several spots on both U.S. 42 and KY 36, Lewis Road, Carlisle Road, Black Rock Road and KY 389 in the 1000 block.

Road closures in Trimble County include KY 36 at Milton Boat Ramp, Wisers Landing Road (by Gills Ridge Road, Wisers Landing Road by IMI, Coopers Bottom Road past McCoys campground, RiverView Park, D. McCoy Campground and Helton Campground, Burkhardt Bottom Road near Milton, Sandhill Lane in Milton, Spring Street in Milton, School Hollow Road in Milton the KY 36-U.S. 42 Intersection in Carroll County and Paradise Point in Milton.

Indiana Ninth District Congresswoman Erin Houchin was in Madison Sunday to survey flood damage. Jefferson County Republican Chair Pam Crozier traveled with Houchin and Ninth District Republican Chair Amanda Lowery to meet Conversation Officers Steve Kinne and Josh Thomas in Patriot to take them to flood impacted areas.

While at the Brown Gym in Madison, Houchin encouraged those impacted by the flooding to “document everything. Document everything you’re spending on. We’re trying to help people recover. If you don’t meet those thresholds then that prevents resources from coming in. You may or may not need them, but I say throw everything on the form, and they will tell you if it doesn’t count. We’ll do whatever we can to be helpful, even if it’s pointing you in the right direction for state or federal resources.”

She said, “President Trump may be changing the way we do emergency management. Nothing has changed at this point but he definitely wants to put the emphasis back on the state, which is probably where it

should be. The states can manage it, the feds come in here, and they’re trying to manage disaster people who have never ever been in southern Indiana. You guys know this area and what you need. It’s much more nimble if you can work with the state government rather than trying to work with a federal bureaucrat. Nobody ever likes to hear the words, ‘I’m from the federal government and I’m here to help.’ Much rather have Mayor Courtney, or local EMA, or the local officials on the front line who are nimble enough to make the decisions necessary to help people get back on their feet.”

Those meeting with Houchin included Courtney, True, County Commissioners Bobby Little and Ron Lee, County Highway Superintendent Jason Copeland, Sheriff Ben Flint and County Surveyor Mike Pittman. Thanks for all you do,” she told them. “I know it’s a hard time trying to get through it. It’s a lot of hours, no sleep, a lot of work. Thank you for your hard work.”

## NATIONALLY, 18 HAVE DIED

The 18 reported deaths since the storms began on Wednesday included 10 in Tennessee. A 9-year-old boy in Frankfort, Kentucky, was caught up in floodwaters while walking to catch his school bus. A 5-year-old boy in Arkansas died after a tree fell on his family’s home, police said. A 16-year-old volunteer Missouri firefighter died in a crash while seeking to rescue people caught in the storm.

The National Weather Service warned Sunday that dozens of locations in multiple states were expected to reach a “major flood stage,” with extensive flooding of structures, roads, bridges and other critical infrastructure possible.

In north-central Kentucky, emergency officials ordered a mandatory evacuation for Falmouth and Butler, towns near the bend of the rising Licking River. Thirty years ago, the river reached a record 50 feet, resulting in five deaths and 1,000 homes destroyed.

The Kentucky River was cresting at Frankfort Lock at 48.27 feet on Monday morning, just shy of the record of 48.5 feet set there on Dec. 10, 1978, according to CJ Padgett, a meteorologist with the weather service’s Louisville office. While other areas are in major flood stage, the forecasted crest for this location is closest to its record.



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Madison Fire Department Chief Bill DeVries (left), Deputy Chief Jeremy Cornelius (right) and Jefferson County Sheriff Ben Flint (center) were busy Saturday loading sandbags for use toward flood control. The Jefferson County Criminal Justice Center bagged up about 15 tons of sand for use during the flood emergency.



The falls at Hanging Rock Hill in Madison were still running strong but allowed a few cars to pass during a short break in the heavy rainfall on Friday. Three of the four routes to Madison's hilltop — the exception being U.S. 421 — were closed at various times during the storm due to heavy water runoff, flooding debris and mudslides and road crews, sheriff's deputies and firefighters worked long hours to keep as many highways cleared as possible.

# ‘Amazing team effort’ guides county through storms

BY BOB DEMAREE

A storm front that nobody wanted arrived in Jefferson County over the past last week, bringing hazards and dangers and leading to action that garnering praise at Thursday's meeting of the Jefferson County Commissioners.

"It was an amazing team effort," said Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency Director Matt True, commending the way local law enforcement, highway departments and the 911 dispatch have worked together to respond to the waves of thunderstorms and flooding. "Everybody has worked fabulous together."

Commissioner Ron Lee agreed, noting he's been impressed with the collaboration that he's seen. "Those things going on in our community makes us all rich and better," he said.

The Council's meeting took place the day after heavy thunderstorms powered through Jefferson County on Wednesday, April 2, with weather sirens sounding three different times due to dangerous weather conditions.

On that night, the National Weather Service confirmed 12 tornadoes statewide in Indiana, the most active tornado night of the year so far in Indiana.

True speculated that a tornado likely caused damage to a house on Graham Road that had a section of its roof blown off. However, an official ruling on that storm won't be made until further findings are known. In other places that night, the storm left the county with downed power lines and downed trees but much of that was cleared up by the next day.

"This time of year we're chasing trees, we're chasing washouts. Everything," said County Highway Superintendent Jason Copeland, noting that when the storms arrived on the night of April 2 "we were prepared the best we can be prepared," and used chainsaws to clear trees off of roadways to have them back open the next morning. "I can't brag on the (highway) crew enough."

Copeland said Sheriff's Department officers were also helping "cut a lot of trees. They were everywhere."

Lee said he knew of volunteer firefighters from three departments who were up until after midnight April 2, providing help during the storm before getting up to go to their regular jobs the next day.

True also commended the county's 911 dispatch for fielding a wave of call, keeping first responders informed and coordinating response. "The amount of calls for trees down, lines down that they have to take and make, and the agencies they have to notify, they do an outstanding for the limited number people they have in there ... Hats off to dispatch."

County 911 Director Brandon Tucker thanked True for his assistance in helping the dispatch team prepare. "I felt like we were the most weather ready in memory" with multiple radios watching the weather, and communication with the National Weather Service in live time about local weather hazards such as reports of hail,



Congresswoman Erin Houchin (right) met with Madison Mayor Bob Courtney and other local officials on a tour of the flooding Sunday morning



A manhole cover on Vaughn Drive in downtown Madison bubbled water Friday afternoon after heavy rains triggered the start of flooding as more than 6 inches of rain fell last week and weekend and far more in other parts of the region. The Ohio River, at 438 feet Friday, was closing in on a projected 458-foot crest on Monday which covered the manhole and much of the riverfront.

hail size, any sort of damage, and more.

"Ultimately the dispatchers did a great job with both systems that came through," said Tucker. "I am truly proud of them."

With regard to the flooding that followed the April 2 storm, Tucker urged for safety precautions to be taken, noting that flooding claimed 181 lives throughout the United States in 2024. "A lot of people think they can drive through flooded area, but it only takes two feet to flood most cars, and a few inches of moving water can wash them away."

Tucker said the state has a website "Get Prepared" at <http://get-prepared.in.gov/> with information on ways to prepare various dangerous situations.

In other business:

- County Council member Gary Copeland proposed signage for county cemeteries that would provide a list of rules and regula-

tions to be followed.

"Cemetery signage came to my attention from a few constituents," said Copeland, noting that vandalism has occurred in some of the county's cemeteries.

With at list of at least 74 cemeteries, Copeland recommended initially providing signage for 20 cemeteries. He offered quotes for 20 signs at \$674.48 and a quote of \$579 for 50 posts. Copeland said putting signage at 20 cemeteries, "is a real good start," and that more signage can be provided for additional cemeteries in the future.

He said members of the Cemetery Board also asked the Commissioners to create an ordinance for the cemeteries that provides a legal means for law enforcement to cite and penalize those who violate rules and regulations noted on the proposed signage. "This is just something out of respect for our loved ones, veterans, and

everybody that's laid to rest," said Copeland.

Commissioner David Bramer suggested working with the Cemetery Board in deciding which cemeteries should be among the first 20 that will have signage placed.

- County Health Administrator Lindsey Wyne presented the Commissioners with agreements for Indiana Health First funding — a memorandum of understanding to expand trauma and prevention educational services with the Children's Advocacy Center of Southeastern Indiana for \$30,000, and an agreement with Infants in Bloom for \$60,000. Infants in Bloom is a new organization that helps infants born with substance use disorders to ensure their health needs are met.
- She also presented a contract between the Freedom Center, Southeastern Indiana Transitional Resources and the Jefferson

County Health Department to go toward trauma injury prevention core services for \$30,000.

- Appointed Jane Rosenbarger to the Cemetery Board and Stephanie Godward to the Health and Human Relations Commission.
- Approved a resolution naming Lifetime Resources as the designated public transportation provider for Jefferson County, allowing Lifetime to seek grant funding for Catch-a-Ride from the National Transit Administration.
- County Archivist/Grant writer Brian Amick said so far 21 applications have been received for the county's small business grant. The program is a modification from what had been a Revolving Loan Program in an effort to disburse all money and draw that program to a close. There is a total of \$63,846.50 available for grants. The deadline for applicants to apply for the grant is April 28.



# Humes named ‘all-star friend’ at club brunch

## Danny Gibson remembers mentors who inspired him

**BY BOB DEMAREE**

Two noteworthy Madison Cubs — Larry Humes and Danny Gibson — were highlighted at Saturday’s “Growing Greatness Champagne Brunch,” event at the Boys and Girls Club of Jefferson County with a theme of “Seeds of Greatest: Crafting Character at the Club.”

Humes, Indiana’s Mr. Basketball in 1962, was part of the Cubs’ team that had a four-year

record of 97-5 and was a state finalist in 1962. He went on to play for Evansville College (later the University of Evansville) as the Purples Aces won NCAA Division II national championships in 1964 and 1965.

Gibson, a 2002 graduate of Madison, was a freshman on Madison’s 1999 Cubs semistate basketball team and a three-year starter. He went on to play more than a decade in numerous pro leagues in Europe, and is now head coach of the MCHS boys basketball team.

Both Humes and Gibson grew up in Madison as members of the club, named at the time they participated as the Lide White Boys Club before rebranding in 2021 as the Boys and Girls Club of Jefferson County to conform

to the national organization’s desire for standardized naming around the state and country.

Humes was not feeling well enough to travel from Indianapolis on the day of the event, which also had numerous weather challenges. He was introduced by Hank Bentz, a teammate with Humes in the 1960s, who told how Humes “grew up in a segregated neighborhood in a segregated Madison during the 1940s and 1950s.”

Bentz said Humes, during his childhood, wanted to be a policeman or a soldier but went on to serve for 42 years as a teacher and coach. “Even though his basketball and life accomplishments are impressive, Larry



Bob Demaree

Hank Bentz, a Madison Cubs teammate of Larry Humes in the 1960s, introduces the former Indiana Mr. Basketball at Saturday’s Growing Greatness Champagne Brunch at the Boys and Girls Club of Jefferson County. Humes, who was honored by the club, was unable to attend the event but spoke to the audience by phone.

SEE CLUB/PAGE B2

# Madison’s Waggoner to wrestle at Mount St. Joseph

**BY DAVID CAMPBELL**

As a fifth grader, Ayden Waggoner won one wrestling match the entire season. Despite that frustrating start, the Madison Consolidated High School grappler turned himself into a two-time semistate participant and a college wrestler by the time he was a senior.

Waggoner recently signed to wrestle at Mount St. Joseph University, completing a journey he started as a fifth grader just hoping to get a win.

“Coming up all the way through, I was getting better and better. I actually wasn’t really a physical kid. I was standoffish and everything else,” Waggoner said. “And then just being in wrestling made me a better, outgoing person. I’m glad that the coaches that I’ve had, and even my mother, put that in me, because it translated over onto the mat and over onto the football field.”

Waggoner had an outstanding senior season for the Cubs, going 31-13 and placing fourth in the sectional at 190 pounds. But he improved on that to place third in the regional and earn his second trip to the semistate. Overall, he went 75-26 on the mat over his last three seasons.

Along the way, Waggoner beat two state finalists this season and it was those wins that helped



David Campbell

Madison Consolidated High School senior Ayden Waggoner (on top) has signed to wrestle at Mount St. Joseph University.

put him on the map and draw the attention of colleges.

“I November, I didn’t think that I would even get any offers to go play sports, anywhere, wrestling or football. And I ended up getting three or four offers to go to Wittenberg, Manchester and MSJ,” Waggoner said. “I ended up choosing MSJ because they helped me with

more than just being an athlete, they helped me become a better person and helped me grow and walk better in my faith, with my relationship with God, and that’s what I really like.”

Madison coach Philip Wimpee didn’t see Waggoner wrestle as a fifth grader, but he saw him as a freshman and has been thrilled at the growth that he has shown.

Some of the, I’ll say stupid things, he was doing as a freshman we really had to clean up. He did that and the past two years, he’s really taken full advantage of all of our workouts, and just really taken heed of the coaching,” Wimpee said. “He has just progressed significantly and it showed with the level that he’s at. He beat two of the kids

that were wrestling at the state finals. I mean, he’s right there, and one or two things go differently, he’s there, too. We’re just so proud of him.”

The decision to go to Mount St. Joseph was about more than just wrestling. Along with his faith, MSJ also presented an unique opportunity for his desired major.

“I already know that I’m gonna do sports management and then minor in business, and I’m hoping I can partner either with the Reds or the Bengals or anything out there in Cincinnati,” Waggoner said. “MSJ has internships and stuff like that and I can get a job right after I come out of college.”

As for the wrestling, Wimpee believes that Waggoner can make his mark. But it will take the same level of commitment that he has already shown.

“He’s gonna have to grow. He’s obviously a big kid, but at the same time, he projects to be at 197 and 197 pounders in college are big guys,” Wimpee said. “So he’s gonna have to grow a lot in the weight room. He’s gonna have to eat the right way and then it usually takes one to two years for those guys that are transitioning to college to really figure it out. But he’s got the mentality to do that.”

# Madison’s Klein to play for former Panther Hughes at Franklin

**BY DAVID CAMPBELL**

Graham Klein got a chance to know Franklin College men’s soccer coach Josh Hughes while attending camps at Hanover College. So when Klein got the chance to play for Hughes at the next level, he jumped at the opportunity.

The Madison Consolidated High School senior recently signed for college soccer at Franklin where he will play under Hughes, the former Hanover standout player and assistant coach who will be in his first year as head coach with the Grizzlies. For Klein, the decision was a no-brainer.

“My number one reason was their coach. I really like coach Hughes,” Klein said. “I practiced under him at Hanover for a few camps and he just kind of really stuck out to me. He recently reached out to me, and I said, ‘You know what? Let’s give it a try.’ I went out to Franklin. I loved the campus. The facilities were pretty nice. And then I looked into the programs a little bit, and I was like, ‘Yeah, this is my place.’”

Klein has been the backbone of a Madison boys soccer team that won two sectional championships. As the goalkeeper, Klein was the last line of a defense that featured some of the best players in the area.

Madison coach Kyle Boekeloo knows how valuable Klein was to his team’s success and is thrilled to see him get a chance to play at the next level.

“He’s grown, he’s matured. He was someone that we wanted to be a captain this year and over the summer, from last year to this year, (his leadership) grew astronomically,” Boekeloo said. “He became a ‘we’ guy and he was really about the team and making sure that all the



David Campbell

Madison Consolidated High School senior Graham Klein has signed to play soccer at Franklin College.

young kids were doing all the right things. I’m so happy for him.”

Klein didn’t get a chance to play much as a freshman but rather than pout, he worked on his game to become the starting goalie as a

sophomore. At Franklin, Klein knows that he will have to repeat that process and is already targeting areas where he needs to improve.

SEE PLAY/PAGE B8

## LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

### TUESDAY, APRIL 8

#### BASEBALL

Carroll Co. hosts Pendleton Co., 5:30 p.m.  
Madison hosts Greensburg, 5:30 p.m.  
Switzerland Co. at Austin, 6 p.m.

#### GOLF

Southwestern boys at Seymour, 4:45 p.m.

#### SOFTBALL

Carroll Co. hosts Madison, 5:30 p.m.

#### TENNIS

Shawe girls at New Washington, 5 p.m.

#### TRACK & FIELD

Switzerland Co. hosts Southwestern, Milan, 5 p.m.  
Shawe at New Washington, 5:30 p.m.

#### VOLLEYBALL

Madison boys  
acc at Scottsburg, 6:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

#### BASEBALL

Shawe hosts Southwestern, 5 p.m.  
Switzerland Co. at Rising Sun, 5:30 p.m.

#### GOLF

Madison boys hosts Austin, Scottsburg, 5 p.m.

#### LACROSSE

Hanover College women at Franklin, 6 p.m.  
Hanover College men at Anderson, 7 p.m.

#### SOFTBALL

Southwestern hosts Rock Creek, 5 p.m.  
Switzerland Co. hosts Rising Sun, 5 p.m.

#### TENNIS

Madison girls host Providence, 5 p.m.  
Southwestern girls at South Dearborn, 5 p.m.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 10

#### GOLF

Hanover College men at Illinois College, 10 a.m.  
Southwestern boys host Switzerland Co., 5 p.m.

#### SOFTBALL

Hanover College at Transylvania, 5 p.m. (DH)  
Southwestern hosts Trinity Lutheran, 5:30 p.m.

#### TENNIS

Madison girls host Lawrenceburg, 5 p.m.

#### TRACK & FIELD

Shawe at Jac-Cen-Del, 5 p.m.  
Switzerland Co. hosts Rising Sun, Jac-Cen-Del, 5 p.m.  
Madison hosts Southwestern, 5:15 p.m.

SEE CALENDAR/PAGE B8



LOCAL ROUNDUP

Fulton lashes two hits in Hanover softball win

**BY THE COURIER STAFF**  
Former Southwestern Rebel Ashley Fulton had two hits — including a double — and an RBI to lift Hanover to a 3-1 win over Earlham in the first game of a softball doubleheader at home on Sunday.

Hanover had six hits in the game with Lauren Beaman collecting a double and two RBIs, Olivia Planck and LauRie Harmless each getting a hit and an RBI and Addison Smith getting a hit. Beamon also picked up the win in the circle with 11 strikeouts and just one earned run in seven innings.

Hanover was held to just four singles in a 7-0 loss to Earlham in the second game. Beaman, Madi

Kammer, Sydney Foy and Smith each had hits. Lulu Van Beek allowed three earned runs on six hits in three innings and took the loss.

Hanover, now 7-11 overall and 3-1 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, travels to Transylvania (Ky.) for two games on Thursday and to Berea (Ky.) for two on Saturday, all in the conference.

**HANOVER BASEBALL BEATS ROSE**  
Hanover scored 15 runs in the seventh and eighth innings to blow away Rose-Hulman 16-3 in baseball on Sunday in Terre Haute.

The game was postponed from Friday due to heavy rain. The two teams wrapped up their three-game series with a doubleheader on Monday.

Jake Danneman went 2-for-4 with a double, three RBIs and two runs scored to lead Hanover's offense. Ben Brittingham was 2-for-5 with a double, two RBIs and two runs, Josh Simpson had two hits and an RBI, Sam Perkins had two hits and scored twice, Nickey Gutzwiller had a double and an RBI, and Gavin Grimm had a hit and two RBIs.

Dylan Lloyd struck out seven and allowed one earned run in six innings to get the win on

the mound.

Hanover, now 9-14 overall and 5-3 in the HCAC, played Rose-Hulman for two games on Monday and heads to Berea (Ky.) for two games on Sunday, all in conference play.

**HANOVER LACROSSE LOSES**  
Hanover women's lacrosse dropped a 12-6 match at home to Spalding (Ky.) on Sunday.

Abby Mensing had two goals and an assist for the Panthers, Quinn Cherry had a goal, and Mallory Mahin and Kaitlyn Madden each had goals.

Emma Williams stopped 11 shots in goal for Hanover.

The Panthers, now 0-6 over-

all and 0-1 in the HCAC, travels to Franklin on Wednesday and hosts Transylvania (Ky.) on Saturday.

**MADISON VOLLEYBALL FALLS**  
Madison boys volleyball suffered its first loss of the season in five sets to Floyd Central Thursday at home.

The Cubs lost 19-25, 25-14, 27-25, 25-23, 15-9. No statistics from the match were available.

Madison, now 2-1 on the season, travels to Scottsburg on Tuesday and heads to Floyd Central on Friday before playing in the Jeffersonville Tournament on Saturday.

UConn routs Gamecocks to capture 12th NCAA title

**BY DOUG FEINBERG**  
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

TAMPA, Fla. — During the final sweet moments of UConn's 12th national title, Geno Auriemma and Paige Bueckers embraced after the star guard departed her final game with the Huskies.

It was the moment they wanted all along.

"They've all been gratifying, don't get me wrong," Auriemma said. "But this one here, because of the way it came about and what's been involved, it's been a long time since I've been that emotional when a player has walked off the court."

Bueckers, Azzi Fudd and Sarah Strong led the way as UConn returned to the top of women's college basketball by rolling to an 82-59 victory over defending champion South Carolina on Sunday.

Fudd, who was named the Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four, scored 24 points. Strong had 24 points and 15 rebounds, and Bueckers scored 17 points for UConn (37-3).

"Well, it's amazing to have three players, three people like that on the same team," said the 71-year-old Auriemma, who became the oldest coach in major college basketball to win a championship. "And Sarah, you



UConn head coach Geno Auriemma holds up the championship trophy after UConn defeated South Carolina in the national championship game at the Final Four of the women's NCAA college basketball tournament, Sunday, April 6, in Tampa, Fla.

would think Sarah was graduating the way she plays, right? All three of them complement each other so well. They all have such unique skill sets."

Bueckers capped her stellar career with the Huskies' first championship since 2016, ending a nine-year drought for the team. That was the longest period for Auriemma and his program without a title since Rebecca Lobo and Jen Rizzotti led the Huskies to their first championship in 1995.

Since then the Huskies

have had dominant championship runs, including in the early 2000s led by Sue Bird and Diana Taurasi, 2009-10 with Maya Moore and finally the four straight from 2013-16 with Breanna Stewart. All were in attendance in Florida on Sunday to see the Huskies' latest title.

"You just never know if you'll ever be back in this situation again," Auriemma said. "And there were so many times when I think we all questioned, 'Have we been here too long? Has it been time?' And we kept hanging in

there and hanging in there and that's because these players make me want to hang in there every day."

Bueckers, the expected No. 1 pick in the WNBA draft on April 14, delivered for the Huskies throughout their championship season.

Winning a title was the only thing missing from an incredible UConn career that was slowed by injuries. She was the first freshman to win AP Player of the Year before missing a lot of her sophomore season with a tibial pla-

teau fracture and meniscus tear. She then tore an ACL before the next season.

"It's been a story of resilience, gratitude of overcoming adversity and responding to life's challenges," Bueckers said. "I wouldn't trade it for the world."

UConn closed the first half up 10 points and then put the game away in the third quarter, with Fudd, Strong and Bueckers combining for 23 of the team's 26 points in the period. UConn was up 50-39 with 3:21 left before closing with a 12-3 run.

Fudd and Strong got it started with back-to-back 3s, and the rout was on. Auriemma subbed Bueckers, Fudd and Strong out with 1:32 left in the game.

UConn's leading trio finished the tourney with 368 points, including an NCAA freshman record 114 for Strong. It was the highest point total for three teammates in a single NCAA Tournament, according to Stats Perform. Chamique Holdscaw, Tamika Catchings and Semeka Randall scored 363 points for Tennessee in the 1998 women's tournament, and Glen Rice led the way for a trio of Michigan men that had 366 points in 1989.

The UConn trio proved to be way too much for South Carolina.

Dawn Staley's team was trying for a third title in four years and fourth overall. It would have tied her with Kim Mulkey for third most behind Auriemma and former Tennessee Hall of Fame coach Pat Summitt, who had eight.

"Our kids gave it all they had. When you can understand why you lost and when you've been on the other side of that three times, you understand it," Staley said. "You can swallow it. We lost to a very good basketball team."

UConn had reached the title game only once during its drought since 2016. The Huskies had been eliminated by heartbreaking last-second losses in the Final Four on buzzer-beaters. The Huskies' last title game appearance came in 2022 when Staley's team beat UConn to start the Gamecocks' current run of success, a game that ended Auriemma's perfect record in title games.

There seemed to be no nerves early for either team as the game got off to a fast start. The teams traded baskets for the first few minutes before the defenses started to clamp down. The Huskies led 19-14 after one quarter and then extended the advantage to 36-26 at the half. Fudd had 13 points and Strong added eight points and 11 rebounds.

Healthy Azzi Fudd leads UConn to women's title

**BY ALANIS THAMES**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA, Fla. — This time, Azzi Fudd was healthy. And she made a big difference for UConn.

Fudd was named the Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four after leading the Huskies to the program's 12th national championship. The dynamic guard scored 24 points during Sunday's 82-59 victory over South Carolina in the title game.

UConn also reached the Final Four last season, but Fudd was sidelined by a torn meniscus and anterior cruciate ligament in her right knee. She could only watch as the Huskies were eliminated by Caitlin Clark and Iowa in the semifinals.

Fudd was ready to go this time around. She scored 19 points in Friday's 85-51 victory over UCLA.

Then, with the Gamecocks trying for a second straight championship, Fudd was terrific. She went 9 for 17 from the field. She also had five rebounds, three steals and an assist.

Fudd scored 11 in the third quarter when the Huskies broke the game open. It was the most points in a single quarter of an NCAA title game by a UConn women's basketball player, and sixth-most by any women's player in a championship.

"I think all of our mind-



UConn guard Azzi Fudd (35) shoots against South Carolina forward Sania Feagin (20) during the first half of the national championship game at the Final Four of the women's NCAA college basketball tournament, Sunday, April 6, in Tampa, Fla.

set was just to be aggressive, stay locked in, stay disciplined, stay together," Fudd said. "And that's exactly what we did. I happened to score 11 points, but I was doing what the game was giving."

The cheering crowd for the championship included her parents. Her mother wore a shirt that read "FUDD AROUND AND FIND OUT."

"I mean, they're the reason I'm playing basketball," Fudd said. "They taught me most of the things I know. So shoutout Mom and Dad. But to be able to stand here, to see all the people that I love in the crowd, people I love here on the stage with me, I don't even have words to describe this moment

right now."

Fudd led the way against South Carolina, but she got plenty of help. Sarah Strong had 24 points and 15 rebounds, and Paige Bueckers scored 17 points in her final game with UConn.

Healthy again, Fudd paid tribute to her teammates and all the people around her for the championship season.

"My teammates, the people I'm with every single day, they support me, encourage me," Fudd said. "I lean on them, and they're there for me every day. My family, the coaching staff, the support staff here, just the people I surround myself with, I think that their resilience then feeds off into me."



Madison basketball coach Danny Gibson speaking at the Boys and Girls Club of Jefferson County Growing Greatness Champagne Brunch. "To all the young people in the room, no matter what your surroundings are right now, no matter what is going on with you right now, you stay determined and disciplined and you can change your surroundings," Gibson said. "The seeds are already in you. All you have to do is water them."

CLUB

FROM PAGE B1

Humes is most of all an all-star friend, who is deserving of recognition," Bentz said.

Humes, during a phone call for the ceremony, remembered the impact the club had on his life, as well as that of Lide White herself, who during his youth was a retired educator after having served as the first principal of Lydia Middleton Elementary School.

"Miss White tutored, mentored me and made me a better person," said Humes, noting he appreciated his teammates, coaches, teachers and friends in Madison, calling the city a "wonderful place to live."

Gibson said he joined the Lide White

Boys and Girls Club when he was 6 years old. And while the club had many activities, "the gym was like a home to me. It's where I started to hone my skills in basketball and where a competitive spark was borne. If there was a game, I was in it," whether it was kick ball, dodge ball, basketball or anything.

"I was in there for hours."

But Gibson said the club was more than just games and activities. It provided mentors who taught him the values that inspired him to want to be "the light to the next generation."

"To all the young people in the room, no matter what your surroundings are right now, no matter what is going on with you right now, you stay determined and disciplined and you can change your surroundings," Gibson said. "The seeds are already in you. All you have to do is water them."



# Reds struggles continue 8-2 to Brewers

MILWAUKEE — Jackson Chourio homered twice and matched a career high with five RBIs as the Milwaukee Brewers beat the Cincinnati Reds 8-2 on Sunday.

Chad Patrick (1-0) allowed one run and two hits over 5 1/3 innings for his first major league win. Since starting the season 0-4, the Brewers have won five of six.

Spencer Steer went deep for the Reds, who have dropped five of six.

Chourio hit a sacrifice fly in the third to open the scoring, and Christian Yelich had an RBI single. Chourio then capped a five-run fourth with a three-run homer that made it 7-0.

He added a solo shot in the seventh.

Brice Turang had two

hits to extend his hitting streak to nine games and Sal Frelick's strong start to the season continued when he singled and scored in the fourth.

Reds starter Carson Spillers (0-2) permitted four runs and five hits in 3 1/3 innings. He was replaced by Sam Moll, who served up Chourio's three-run homer to left field.

**BREWERS 1, REDS 0**

Nestor Cortes bounced back from his dreadful Milwaukee Brewers debut by allowing just one hit over six innings in a 1-0 victory over the slumping Cincinnati Reds on Thursday.

The Reds lost 1-0 for a third straight game after falling by that score to the Texas Rangers each of the

previous two days. According to Sportradar, the Reds are the first team to lose three consecutive games 1-0 since the Philadelphia Phillies in May 1960. It's happened six times in the majors, four of those from 1908-17.

Cincinnati's Nick Lodolo (1-1) allowed one unearned run and four hits in 6 2/3 innings.

Lodolo didn't allow a baserunner for the first three innings. In the fourth, Jackson Chourio led off with a ground-rule double, and a fielding error by Lodolo allowed William Contreras to reach with one out. Sal Frelick drove in Chourio with a two-out single.

**BREWERS 3, REDS 2**

Brice Turang hit a two-

run homer, Tyler Alexander struck out six in 5 2/3 hitless innings for his first victory of the season and the Milwaukee Brewers beat the Cincinnati Reds 3-2 on Friday night.

Milwaukee has won four straight following an 0-4 start — the first team to do so since the 2021 Atlanta Braves.

The Reds played without first-year manager Terry Francona and several players who were sent back to the team hotel sick, although most key players were in the lineup. Bench coach Freddie Benavides took over managing duties.

Nick Martinez (0-2) allowed five hits and three earned runs in 4 2/3 innings.

Cincinnati appeared to

be in danger of a fourth consecutive shutout, especially after being held without a hit through six innings before Gavin Lux hit a seventh-inning single.

**REDS 11, BREWERS 7**

TJ Friedl went 4 for 5 and hit one of Cincinnati's four homers off Elvin Rodriguez as the Reds' lineup finally awoke in an 11-7 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Saturday night.

Blake Dunn, Christian Encarnacion-Strand and Jose Trevino also went deep to help the Reds snap a four-game skid and end the Brewers' four-game winning streak.

The Reds had totaled 14 hits and endured a 35-inning scoreless streak

over their last four games, but they jumped all over Rodriguez (0-2) on Saturday.

Elly De La Cruz drew a two-out walk and came all the way home from first on Gavin Lux's bloop double in the first. After retiring his first two batters in the second, Rodriguez gave up a homer to Dunn, a single to Trevino and a two-run blast by Friedl.

Encarnacion-Strand led off the fourth with a 451-foot drive off the center-field scoreboard and Trevino added a two-run shot later in the inning to put Cincinnati ahead 7-0.

Reds starter Brady Singer (2-0) allowed five runs — three earned — and nine hits in five innings. He struck out seven and walked one.



AP Photo  
In this Jan. 3, 1968, file photo, Paul Brown, president of the New Cincinnati Bengals of the American Football League, is trying to select the design of helmets in Cincinnati, to be worn by his team when it starts play in the league.

## Paul Brown gets career win boost as NFL officially incorporates old AAFC stats

**BY JOSH DUBOW**  
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Paul Brown just moved up a few spots on the NFL career coaching wins list.

The NFL owners approved a proposal by Competition Committee on Tuesday to incorporate player, coach and team statistics from the All-America Football Conference into the official NFL records.

The AAFC existed from 1946-49 with Paul Brown's Cleveland team winning the title in each of those years. The Browns, San Francisco 49ers and original Baltimore Colts then joined the NFL in 1950. The Colts disbanded after one year before returning as a new franchise in 1953.

The AAFC had published a statistical supplement after its final season in 1949 that included single-game records, but scoresheets from all the individual games weren't available at the time. But those scoresheets have now been recovered and after consultation with the Elias Sports Bureau and the Pro Football Hall

of Fame, the stats are now part of the official record.

The NFL incorporated stats from the AFL into its official record after the leagues merged in 1970.

That gives Brown 52 additional regular-season and playoff wins to his previous total of 170, moving him from 22nd place all time to seventh with 222.

The incorporation of the AAFC stats includes the 1948 season when the Browns went 14-0 in the regular season and then won the championship game for a perfect 15-0 season.

Only one NFL team has gone through a regular season and playoffs undefeated, with the 1972 Miami Dolphins going 17-0. Some of the members of that team celebrate the accomplishment each year with Champagne after every team in the NFL has at least one loss.

They can still do that as the NFL's only undefeated team in the playoff era that began in 1933 with the NFL planning to list the AAFC champions separately in

the record book.

The quality of the AAFC as a league was shown when the Browns won the NFL title in 1950 in their first year in the new league. There are two coaches and 15 players from the AAFC in the Pro Football Hall of Fame, including notable names like Otto Graham, Lou Groza, Elroy Hirsch, Tom Landry, Marion Motley, Joe Perry and YA Tittle.

Tittle now moves from 65th in career yards passing to 44th — between Steve Young and Troy Aikman — and Motley's 5.7 yards per carry are the best ever for any running back with at least 750 carries and fourth best for any player. Groza moves from 41st all-time in scoring to 24th with 1,608 points.

For team records, the 1948 49ers now have the single-season rushing record with 3,663 yards, eclipsing the previous mark of 3,296 by the Ravens in 2019. San Francisco's 6.07 yards per carry that season are also the new record, ahead of Baltimore's 5.76 this past season.

## Manfred: Torpedo bats 'good for baseball'

### Hopes to see robot umps in MLB by 2026

NEW YORK — Torpedo bats are all the rage this season, and Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred believes all that chatter is positive for the sport.

"They're absolutely good for baseball," Manfred said in a Q&A published by The New York Times on Sunday. "I believe that issues like the torpedo bat and the debate around it demonstrate the fact that baseball still occupies a unique place in our culture, because people get into a complete frenzy over something that's really nothing at the end of the day."

The interview covered multiple topics and included Manfred praising the testing of robot umpires during spring training. He said he'd like to see their use expanded to the regular season soon.

"I hope that we bring it to

the big leagues in short order," Manfred said. "It won't be in 2025. It'd be in 2026."

Torpedo bats drew attention recently when the New York Yankees hit a team-record nine homers in one game. With several players using a strikingly different model in which wood is moved lower down the barrel toward the label, shaping the end a little like a bowling pin, the bat has become baseball's latest fad.

It's caused All-Star and even amateur players to want to take their swings with the unusual-looking bat, creating a rush of orders for Victus Sports. The company is the official bat maker of MLB and has seen sales and interest spike in the torpedo bats.

Manfred highlighted that the bat has been used for a few years now, with players such as

Giancarlo Stanton and Francisco Lindor using torpedoes last season.

The odd shape of the bat — like making a sausage, the meat is simply pushed down the casing — has little to no effect at Victus on the dynamics of making a baseball bat. The cost is the same as a standard bat, with a sticker price starting at around \$200. Only the slogan is punched up: Get your hands on the most talked-about bat in the game.

"Players have actually been moving the sweet spot around in bats for years," Manfred told the Times. "But it just demonstrates that something about the game is more important than is captured by television ratings or revenue or any of those things, when you have the discussions and debates about it."



AP Photo/David Zalubowski  
Denver Nuggets forward Michael Porter Jr., left, fouls Indiana Pacers guard Andrew Nembhard, right, in the second half of an NBA basketball game Sunday, April 6 in Denver

## Pacers rally to defeat reeling Nuggets, 125-120

**BY ARNIE STAPLETON**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER — Obi Toppin scored 22 points in his second start of the season and the Indiana Pacers overcame the absence of Pascal Siakam to hand the reeling Denver Nuggets their fourth consecutive loss Sunday, 125-120.

Myles Turner's 24 points led the Pacers, who overcame a 13-point first-half deficit and an off-night by Tyrese Haliburton, whose nine points on eight shots were less than half his scoring average.

The Nuggets lost their fourth straight despite Nikola Jokic's 41 points, 15 rebounds and 13 assists and a career-high 30 points from Christian Braun.

Jokic was charged with a crucial backcourt turnover with the Nuggets trailing 122-120 with 15 seconds remaining but it was Braun who misread the dribble-handoff from Jokic and caused the turnover just as Jokic was passing to Russell Westbrook.

Jamal Murray missed his fifth consecutive game for Denver with a strained right hamstring and coach Michael Malone said "hopefully" his star point guard will be back for the start of the NBA playoffs.

The Pacers were without Siakam (right elbow) and trailed by 13 in the first half. Haliburton came in averaging 18.6 points per game but was held scoreless until

his 3-pointer with 3:43 left in the third quarter tied it at 84-all, and his floater gave Indiana a 98-97 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

The Nuggets entered Sunday in fourth place in the bunched-up Western Conference, just a game ahead of the eighth-place Memphis Grizzlies.

**TAKEAWAYS**

Pacers: Indiana showed it can win without Siakam and that depth should prove beneficial in the playoffs. The Pacers are solidly in the fourth place in the East.

Nuggets: Denver is falling fast. The Nuggets were in second place not that long ago and now could be facing a play-in game just to make it into the playoffs.

**KEY MOMENT**

Jokic's bad pass to Westbrook in the closing seconds was the Nuggets' third turnover in the final 2 minutes and sixth of the fourth quarter.

**KEY STAT**

Malone successfully challenged two foul calls on Denver in the first half, one on Jokic and the other on Christian Braun.

**UP NEXT**

The Pacers return home to play the Washington Wizards on Tuesday. The Nuggets visit the Sacramento Kings on Wednesday.

## Auriemma showing no signs of slowing down

**BY ALANIS THAMES**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA, Fla. — Geno Auriemma has accomplished more than just about anyone in college basketball.

The 71-year-old UConn coach passed former Stanford women's basketball coach Tara VanDerveer as the winningest coach in Division 1 earlier this season. He won his 12th NCAA title on Sunday, 30 years after winning his first one.

He has done it all in his 40 years at UConn, and amid the celebration of his latest championship gave no indication that he's slowing down just yet.

"We don't like to admit that

we're older because we still act younger because of the people that we're dealing with, said Auriemma, who became the oldest coach to win a national championship. "Yeah, I may be 71 number-wise, but otherwise, I'm more able to do stuff with those young people because I'm around them every day and they rub off on me."

"Does that mean I can do this for another X number of years? No ... These kids are fun, but there is going to come a time where the fun doesn't eliminate how hard it is to do this job. This job is really hard to do."

Auriemma's love-hate relationship with Bueckers



# Ovechkin breaks Gretzky’s NHL goals record with 895th

BY STEPHEN WHYNO  
AP HOCKEY WRITER

NEW YORK — Alex Ovechkin fired just about the perfect shot from the place on the ice that has defined his remarkable career. When the puck hit the net, it made him the top goal scorer in NHL history.

Ovechkin broke Wayne Gretzky’s record by scoring his 895th career goal in the Washington Capitals’ game Sunday against the New York Islanders, beating fellow Russian Ilya Sorokin on a power play with 12:34 left in the second period. He took a cross-ice pass from long-time teammate Tom Wilson and fired a laser past Sorokin with defenseman Jakob Chychrun screening.

Capitals coach Spencer Carbery called it “the ultimate goal-scorer’s goal for

the greatest of all time.”

With the excitement of a child, the 39-year-old belly flopped onto the ice as tens of thousands of fans around him cheered and chanted, “Ovi! Ovi!” while teammates streamed off the bench, mobbing him in celebration.

“I’m probably gonna need a couple more days or maybe a couple weeks to realize what does it mean to be No. 1,” Ovechkin said after a 4-1 loss that was still a party for the Capitals. “I’m really proud for myself. I’m really proud for my family, for all my teammates that help me to reach that milestone and for all my coaches. It’s huge. It’s unbelievable. It’s unbelievable moment, and I’m happy.”

Ovechkin had never scored on Sorokin before, making his countryman the 183rd different goal-



Adam Hunger/Associated Press

Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8) celebrates after scoring his 895th career goal during the second period of an NHL hockey game against New York Islanders in Elmont, N.Y., Sunday, April 6.

tender he has beaten. “Thank you to Sorokin to let me score 895,” Ovechkin said. “I love you, brother.” Ovechkin asked him for the stick, and Sorokin obliged after writing “895!” and signing it.

That any player got to 895 goals, breaking a

record that stood for 31 years, seemed unreal to those in the middle of it.

“It’s truly incredible,” said center Dylan Strome, who got the secondary assist for passing the puck to Wilson. “Sometimes those moments happen where you’ve kind of

got to pinch yourself to believe that you’re really in this moment and really on the ice celebrating or a part of it, and it was awesome.”

Ovechkin broke a record that appeared to be one of the most untouchable in sports. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman made sure to point that out when he opened the 10-minute ceremony to celebrate the milestone.

“Wayne, you’ll always be the ‘Great One’ and you had a record that nobody ever thought would be broken,” Bettman said. “But Alex, you did it.”

The first to get hugs from Ovechkin were long-time equipment managers Craig “Woody” Leydig and Brock Myles, along with the rest of the training and locker room staff who have been around him so long. Ovechkin

waved to acknowledge the crowd and went through a handshake line with the Islanders as crew members set up for the 895 ceremony that has been months in the making.

Ovechkin got a portrait of himself and Gretzky. Janet Gretzky presented a gift to Ovechkin’s wife, Nastya, just as Colleen Howe did to her when her husband broke Gordie’s record back in 1994. Ovechkin got No. 895 in his 1,487th game — the same number Gretzky finished with.

Gretzky shook Ovechkin’s hand, embraced him and congratulated the “Great 8” and his family for the accomplishment.

“They say records are made to be broken, but I’m not sure who’s going to get more goals than that,” Gretzky said.

# Ovechkin breaks Gretzky’s record, draws reactions

Alex Ovechkin scoring his 895th career goal to break Wayne Gretzky’s NHL record reverberated quickly around hockey, sports and the rest of the world.

Here are some of the reactions:

“It was my honor to hold the National Hockey League goals record for the last three decades. I now am delighted to pass that honor to a man who truly was born to put the puck in the net and who has played our game with remarkable passion and power. I forever will be grateful for the way my idol, Gordie Howe, congratulated me upon breaking his record in 1994. And I am thrilled that I could be in attendance to share this moment with you, Alex, as you now are the leading goal-scorer in NHL history.” — Wayne Gretzky

“Salute to you, brother.” — NBA all-time scoring leader LeBron James

“Alex Ovechkin has been an unstoppable force from the moment he entered the NHL in 2005 — a unique package of

effervescent personality, dynamic physicality and other-worldly talent for shooting the puck. His passion for winning is matched only by his incredible ability to score goals. And today, he stands alone.” — NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman

“You are an amazing goal-scorer. I’ve watched you for years and admired your skill and your competitiveness. To reach this milestone and pass Wayne Gretzky, which is something nobody thought possible, truly is special. — Mark Howe, son of Gordie Howe

“With 895 goals to Alex’s name, ALL scored wearing a Capitals jersey, the GR8 Chase is officially over... and what a journey it’s been! (Ovechkin’s) accomplishments as an athlete and person, and his unbreakable connection to this team, this city and this fanbase are nothing short of remarkable. What an important moment in history for Alex, his family and the entire D.C. community.” — Capitals owner Ted Leonsis

“It’s been an honor to compete

against you all these years. Over that time you’ve accomplished so many milestones. But this one was probably thought to be impossible and you found a way to do it.” — Penguins captain Sidney Crosby

“I’m glad that I was able to help you break that record along the way.” — Tampa Bay Lightning goalie Andrei Vasilevskiy

“Just amazing.” — Montreal Canadiens coach and Hall of Fame winger Martin St. Louis

“I loved the way that you’ve done it: your way. You’ve done it with style, you’ve done it with passion and you’ve done it with joy. Just so proud of you.” — Former Capitals coach and current Nashville Predators general manager Barry Trotz

“At one time, Gretzky’s record seemed like an unreachable summit. And to reach it, you need to be exactly that sort of great forward which Ovechkin has been for all these years and remains. Alexander is the face of our hockey and of our sports as a whole, a person who the coun-

try is proud of. ... I would like to wish Ovechkin to play for as long as he wants and to set all kinds of new records. He is a unique person, capable of displaying an amazing game at 39 years old and dominating games against the strongest of opponents. He embodies the power of our sport, of our great country. — Soviet Union goaltender and Russian Hockey Federation president Vladislav Tretiak

“Alex Ovechkin has been such a consistent goal scorer for this, his 20th season, is an amazing accomplishment and establishing a new record that most hockey people believed would never occur.” — All-time coaching wins leader and nine-time Stanley Cup-winning coach Scotty Bowman

“Now this record will stand for 100 years at a minimum. However maybe my grandson Filipp will be able to break this record, but he is a year and a half old now. The NHL record has been set by our Russian guy, Alexander Ovechkin, I congratulate all of us on this. In this complex political time, seeing such things

is worth a lot, let’s enjoy the moment. I wish Sasha further success in his life and hockey career, everything should work out for him.” — Hall of Fame defenseman Viacheslav Fetisov

“It’s impressive the way Ovi’s been able to be so consistent throughout the years and still producing at the highest level, and he’s turning 40 this year. It’s really remarkable.” — Hall of Fame defenseman Nicklas Lidstrom

“I’m amazed that it got broken, and how quickly he did it. That was one I thought would never be broken. It’s incredible. To have 40 goals in the late 30s is phenomenal.” — Hall of Famer Steve Yzerman, who is 10th on the career goals list with 692

“I won’t lie, when Wayne retired, no one thought any of his records would be touched. And seeing him doing it in the same number of games, it’s pretty impressive in today’s game. ... Ovi deserves a lot of credit for what he’s been doing.” — Hall of Fame goaltender and New York Islanders coach Patrick Roy

# Hamlin seizes lead out of pits, holds off Byron in OT at Darlington

BY PETE IACOBELLI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DARLINGTON, S.C. — Denny Hamlin did his job so his pit crew could do its most stellar stop at the perfect time.

Hamlin came into the pits after a final caution in third place and told himself to hit every mark, then let his guys take over.

And that’s what the Joe Gibbs Racing group did, pulling off a perfect winning moment that sent Hamlin out with the lead. He took over on the final restart and held off William Byron to win the Goodyear 400 on Sunday.

It was Hamlin’s 56th career NASCAR win, his fifth at Darlington Raceway and his second straight this season

“When you think about 56 wins, that’s a huge deal,” said Gibbs, Hamlin’s longtime car owner.

Hamlin said he hung on throughout as Byron and others looked like they might pull out victory. Instead, Hamlin waited

out his time and then pounced as he broke away during the green-white-checked finish.

“I can still do it, I can do it at a high level and look forward to winning a lot of races this year,” Hamlin said.

Hamlin won for a second straight week after his success at Martinsville.

Hamlin chose the outside lane for a final restart and shot out to the lead and pulled away from series points leader Byron and NASCAR wins leader Christopher Bell.

Hamlin looked like he’d have a strong finish, but not a winning one as Ryan Blaney passed Tyler Reddick for the lead with three laps left. But moments later, Kyle Larson spun out forcing a final caution and the extra laps.

It was then time for Hamlin’s Joe Gibbs Racing pit crew to shine as it got him out quickly and in the lead.

Byron, who led the first 243 laps, was second with Hamlin’s JGR teammate Bell in third.

“There are two people I really love right now, my pit crew and Kyle Larson,” Hamlin said to a round of boos from those in the stands.

Reddick was fourth and Blaney was fifth. The rest of the top 10 finishers were Chris Buescher, Ross Chastain, Chase Elliott, Ty Gibbs and Kyle Busch.

Hamlin credited the past two victories to his pit crew.

“The pit crew just did an amazing job,” he said. “They won it last week, they won it this week. It’s all about them.”

Blaney had thought he was clear to his first-ever Darlington victory after getting by Reddick late. When he saw the caution flag for Larson’s spin, he said he thought, “Oh, no! I thought we had the race won.”

So did Byron, who sought was to become the first NASCAR driver in nearly 25 years to lead every lap on the way to victory. He got shuffled down the standings during the last round of

green-flag pit stops and could not recover.

“It was looking like it was going to be a perfect race and we were going to lead every lap,” he said.

But once “we lost control, it was too late to get back up there,” Byron said.

## BAD DAY

Kyle Larson, who won the Southern 500 here in 2023, had high hopes for a second Darlington win. But he slid into the inside wall coming off the second turn on lap three and went right to garage where his team worked the next couple of hours to get him back on track. Larson returned on lap 164 after falling 161 laps off the pace. Larson finished next to last in 37th.

## BIFFLE’S RIDE

Greg Biffle, the last NASCAR driver to win consecutive Cup Series victories at Darlington in 2006 and 2007, drove the pace car for the Goodyear 400 on Sun-

day. Biffle has had an eventful few months, flying rescue missions with his helicopter into areas of the Southeast affected by devastating Hurricane Helene in September.

Biffle was planning a weeklong trip to the Bahamas when his phone started going off about people stranded in parts of Western North Carolina.

“I went to the hangar and the power was out,” Biffle said. “We got the hangar down open with the tug and got the helicopter out. Once I got in the air, I realized what had taken place.”

Biffle then flew the next 11 days from “sunup to sundown.”

“It was incredible,” Biffle said. “It was pretty tough going for the first week.”

Biffle won the Myers Brothers Humanitarian Award for his work.

## UP NEXT

The series goes to Bristol on April 13 before taking its traditional Easter break.

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# Hunter, Sanders put on show for 32 NFL teams at Buff’s pro day

**BY ARNIE STAPLETON AND PAT GRAHAM**  
AP SPORTS WRITERS

BOULDER, Colo. — She-deur Sanders insisted Friday he doesn’t necessarily need the bright lights of Broadway or the Bellagio at the outset of his NFL journey. He suggested he could just as easily thrive for the “Dawg Pound” fan base in Cleveland.

“I could bring cameras and eyes anywhere I go,” Sanders declared after throwing passes to a fantastic foursome of two-way star Travis Hunter, Jimmy Horn Jr., Will Sheppard and LaJohnty Wester at Colorado’s pro day, dubbed the “We Ain’t Hard 2 Find Showcase.”

“It don’t matter where I go, I know ... the influence I have on the society and the culture,” Sanders said. “So wherever I go it’s definitely going to be an improvement than what it was before I got there.”

Sanders proclaimed he’s the top quarterback in the NFL draft on April 24, although most mock drafts have the Tennessee Titans taking Miami QB Cam Ward with the No. 1 overall pick, followed by either Sanders or Hunter, the 21-year-old two-way star and Heisman Trophy winner who skipped the testing periods Friday

but shined while running routes and catching passes — without gloves — from Sanders.

Hunter also shunned the post-workout podium after scores of NFL talent evaluators from all 32 teams descended on Colorado’s campus for the showcase whose moniker was a nod to one of “Coach Prime” Deion Sanders’ mottos. NFL Network broadcast the event and ESPN also was on hand.

The Browns own the second overall pick in the draft, followed by the New York Giants. Although both Sanders and Hunter figure to be selected in the top three picks, the Las Vegas Raiders could try to move up from sixth.

Deion Sanders has said he wants Shedeur to go to the right team with the right fit and he portrayed the Browns as an ideal possibility when asked about Shedeur and Hunter having dined with Browns bigwigs Thursday night.

No matter where he lands, Shedeur Sanders will be part of a rebuild, something he said he used to: “I don’t think Jackson State or Colorado had a winning history before I got there. So, it’s just another day in the office, another year in the office for me. It’s the same thing over and over.

“I’m just thankful for the opportunity and whoever drafts me ... will be very lucky to get me.”

Deion Sanders stuck by his proclamation that She-deur and Hunter should go 1-2 in the draft, although he didn’t say who should be the top pick.

Hunter and Shedeur Sanders both skipped workouts at the NFL scouting combine and the Big 12 Pro Day. Sanders’ brother, safety Shilo Sanders, skipped the bench press and vertical jumps that began the day at the Buffaloes’ indoor practice facility Friday, citing a sore right shoulder. But he ran the 40-yard dash in an impressive 4.52 seconds before cheering on his brother’s passes in the afternoon.

All eyes were on Shedeur Sanders and Hunter, the 21-year-old two-way star who had 96 catches for 1,258 yards and 15 touchdowns on offense and 35 tackles, 11 pass breakups, eight forced incompletions and four interceptions on defense while allowing just one touchdown last season when the Buffaloes went 9-4.

Hunter, who won the Heisman, Chuck Bednarik and Fred Biletnikoff awards, wants to play both offense and defense in the NFL, something that Hall of

Famer Champ Bailey, the last true two-way player to come out of college, said will depend on where he lands on draft night.

“It’s about what the team allows him to do,” Bailey told The Associated Press while watching the action. “When you call the defense out there, he’s going to run out. When you call the offense out on the field, he’s going to run out. But who’s your coach? What will they allow him to do? Where he goes is going to determine how those first couple of years play out and the opportunities he gets. He’s just got to get with the right team.”

Asked what it was like throwing to this group of receivers one last time, Shedeur Sanders said, “I’m not sure that one of these guys won’t be on my team. I know them. So, who knows? Who knows if Shilo’s going to be on my team? So, there’s a lot of I-don’t-know’s right now.”

What he does know is his favorite part of pro day was having his brother cheering him on.

“It was cool that he was able to be there and support me. I wish I was there to watch him run his 40-yard. I think he ran a 4.52. So, he’s been training hard to get that done, so I’m excited that we’re all here, we’re all shining and we’re all going to be legendary.”

# Harman survives wind to lead Texas Open

SAN ANTONIO — Brian Harman survived 30 mph wind by playing the final 13 holes without a bogey, giving him an even-par 72 and a three-shot lead in a Valero Texas Open so difficult that only six players managed to break par.

Harman had his chance to join them until narrowly missing a 12-foot birdie attempt on the final hole at the TPC San Antonio.

He was more than satisfied to finish with his first 54-hole lead since he won the British Open two years ago at Royal Liverpool. That also was his last victory, and Harman has a great chance to end that drought.

“Just a tough day, man,” Harman said. “When you get around this place and the wind blows and the pins are tucked, it’s just a really hard day.”

He was at 12-under 204, three shots clear of Andrew Novak (69), with Tom Hoge (68) another shot behind going into the final round. Keith Mitchell had a 73 and was five behind. Mitchell and Novak need to win to get into the Masters next week.

Novak also is looking for his first PGA Tour title, and he has a wall to thank for his chances.

He hit 5-iron well to the right on the par-3 16th hole. It hit the wall below the grandstands and bouncing into the rough and onto the green about 5 feet for a most unlikely birdie.

“Obviously, not a great shot, but I know if it’s over there, there’s some space, it can be OK,” Novak said. “I didn’t expect it to kick back and go on the green. That was obviously ridiculous. Not the best swing and sometimes golf rewards you.”

There were not many rewards on this day, with a wind out of the opposite direction. No one could reach two of the par 5s on the Oaks course, and the average score was nearly two shots over par.

Harman was 2 over for his round when he made a pair of late birdies from the bunker, on the par-5 14th and the reachable par-4 17th.

Mitchell also made birdie on those holes, which spoke to the difficulty of the wind and the back nine and challenge facing everything.

“That (17) and 14 were really the only two birdie chances we had all day,” Mitchell said. “Everything else you were just trying to find a green,

SEE **TEXAS/PAGE B8**

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|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 3 |   |   |   |   | 5 |   |
| 6 |   |   | 9 | 8 |   |   | 4 |
|   |   | 8 |   |   | 3 | 1 |   |
| 8 | 1 |   |   |   |   |   | 2 |
|   | 2 | 9 |   |   | 4 | 3 |   |
| 3 |   |   |   |   |   |   | 6 |
|   |   | 3 | 8 |   | 5 |   |   |
| 4 |   |   |   | 5 | 2 |   | 1 |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | 7 |   |

SUDOKU

**How to play:** Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 6 |   | 7 |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 6 |   |   |   |
|   | 5 |   | 3 |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 1 |   |   |   | 5 |   |
| 5 |   |   | 1 | 4 | 6 |   | 3 |
|   |   | 4 |   |   |   | 9 |   |
|   | 4 |   |   |   | 3 |   | 9 |
| 8 | 9 |   |   | 2 |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | 7 |   | 2 |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | 2 | 5 |

SUDOKU

**How to play:** Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

HOROSCOPE

APRIL 8

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** Because of social media and other factors, many people may have fallen into the habit of constantly oversharing their every thought and emotion. Some things might be more appropriate in a therapy session or in conversation with a trusted friend.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** A good deed may turn out to be its own reward. Being wise about managing your finances could guide you towards future financial stability. There might be an opportunity to come to an agreement about a promising investment or financial project.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Brainstorming with a team who shares a collective goal could lead to amazing insights. This might not be as likely to happen with any random roomful of strangers. Work on developing a supportive group where everyone feels safe in expressing their ideas.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** There may seem to be endless detours and delays on the long path to your goals. They could help clarify your goals and answer questions you didn't know were halting you from making progress. This may be occurring for a reason.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** Sometimes what you feel as stress may just be a response to concentrating on the wrong part of the puzzle. Consider moving things around. You could discover a new sense of clarity that might refocus your attention and bring a calm and renewed purpose.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Opening your umbrella could minimize the impact of the rain. Others may be caught up in their own world, so it might be best for you to work quietly in the background. Romantic moments may not unfold as you imagined.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** Keeping your concentration focused may be challenging with all the distractions coming at you. Be careful as unusual stimulation might invite impulsiveness. You may accomplish more tasks if you stay in your bubble and stick to your set routine.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** You might risk friends or partnerships if you become too focused on competing for the same goal. Explore new ways to compromise and work together. Presenting a strong and united front could give you the edge you need to succeed.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** Note your best ideas; act on the ones with the best chance of success. With plenty of practice, you might develop a rhythm and style that is uniquely your own, possibly causing other people to sit up and take notice.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Concentrate on your long-term goals while also finding a way to balance your personal time. You never know who might be watching and admiring you from afar. Consider making time for a checkup or to educate yourself about a new subject.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Being intrigued may not require you to move forward. Hold off on buying things that catch your eye as their appeal might fade quickly. You may be struggling with a challenging task. Persist, knowing that it could get easier with time.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** You may decide to keep some dreams close to your heart. A thought might initially seem groundbreaking, but practical analysis could show it's not viable. Consider sticking to the tried and true for a while and avoid launching new projects.

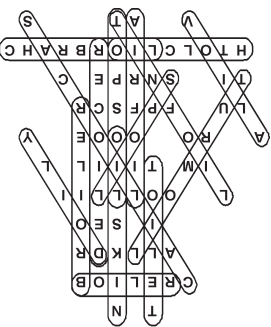
Sudoku solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 5 |
| 1 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 4 |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 2 |
| 9 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 5 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 |
| 2 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 8 |
| 7 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 6 |
| 4 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 7 |
| 8 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 1 |

Jumble solution

WAAVER, FAZOR, THRIVE, DRENCH  
The pole vaulter's attempt is going to end when it was — OVER WITH.

Sleuth solution



JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

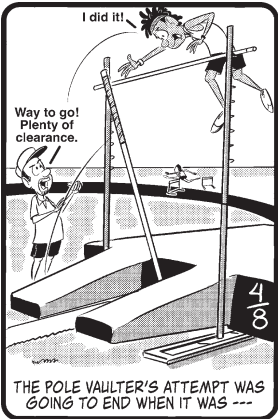
|        |
|--------|
| VARWE  |
|        |
| ZARRO  |
|        |
| VIRTHE |
|        |
| CENRHD |
|        |

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Print your answer here:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

WORD SLEUTH

OILY WORDS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | Z | W | T | Q | N | T | K | N | H | D | A | X | U | R |
| P | M | J | G | C | R | E | L | I | O | B | R | A | P | D |
| A | X | V | S | Q | A | L | L | K | D | R | N | K | I | F |
| D | A | X | V | T | Q | I | O | S | E | O | M | J | H | F |
| C | A | L | Y | W | O | O | L | L | I | I | U | R | P |   |
| N | L | J | I | M | H | T | I | I | I | L | F | L | D | B |
| A | Z | X | R | O | V | T | O | O | O | E | R | Q | Y | O |
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| Z | T | I | Y | W | S | N | R | P | E | V | C | T | R | Q |
| O | H | T | O | L | C | L | I | O | R | B | R | A | H | C |
| N | L | K | I | V | H | F | A | T | D | C | A | Z | S | X |

Monday's unlisted clue: THREAD

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: PARTIALLY COOK IN WATER

|           |          |            |         |
|-----------|----------|------------|---------|
| Airfoil   | Doily    | Sacroiliac | Topsoil |
| Boiler    | Oilcloth | Spoil      | Turmoil |
| Broiler   | Oilskin  | Tinfoil    | Voila   |
| Charbroil | Recoiled | Toilet     |         |

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Fit of anger
- 5 Leading lady?
- 8 Chicago paper, briefly
- 12 Geometric calculation
- 13 Compete
- 14 Speck
- 15 Hockey player's dream
- 17 Jacob's twin
- 18 Carte lead-in
- 19 Giverny summer
- 20 Song of praise
- 21 Mermaid's home
- 22 Pen name
- 23 Noisy kiss
- 26 "My bad!"
- 30 "Insecure" actress
- 31 Towboat
- 32 Regretted
- 33 Paramount
- 35 Painter of ballerinas
- 36 Thurs. follower
- 37 Wagner's "— Rhein-gold"

DOWN

- 1 "Funny!"
- 3 Greek cheese
- 4 Corpulent
- 5 Musical set in Argentina
- 6 Bad habit
- 7 "A spider!"
- 8 Overtime causes
- 9 Activist
- 10 Slanted type (Abbr.)
- 11 Oz creator L. Frank —
- 16 Stink
- 20 Math ratios
- 21 Eat quickly
- 22 Cranberry territory
- 23 Venus, to Serena

Solution time: 22 mins.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | I | T | E | H | V | P | N | H | O | I |   |
| N | N | O | B | O | N | V | M | V | T | S |   |
| A | V | M | V | X | O | S | O | E | R | S |   |
| L | H | V | N | E | K | V | D | N | V | D |   |
|   |   |   | S | V | D |   | I | H | F |   |   |
| S | V | G | D | E | D | E | W | E | R | S |   |
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| V | J | O | I | E | I | A | I | V | E | R | V |
| B | I | H | T | E | L | A | V | E | F | F | H |

Today's solution

|    |    |    |    |  |    |    |    |  |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |  | 5  | 6  | 7  |  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    |    |  | 13 |    |    |  | 14 |    |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    |  | 16 |    |    |  | 17 |    |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |    |  | 19 |    |    |  | 20 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 21 |  |    |    | 22 |  |    |    |    |    |
| 23 | 24 | 25 |    |  |    | 26 |    |  |    | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |  |    | 31 |    |  | 32 |    |    |    |
| 33 |    |    |    |  | 34 |    |    |  | 35 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 36 |  |    |    | 37 |  |    |    |    |    |
| 38 | 39 | 40 |    |  |    | 41 |    |  |    | 42 | 43 | 44 |
| 45 |    |    |    |  |    | 46 |    |  | 47 |    |    |    |
| 48 |    |    |    |  |    | 49 |    |  | 50 |    |    |    |
| 51 |    |    |    |  |    | 52 |    |  | 53 |    |    |    |

HOROSCOPE

APRIL 9

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** If feelings are nagging you, lean in. Exploring why you react strongly to something yields more insight than trying to put your emotions into precise boxes. It might be wise to seek advice and question what something means on a deeper level.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Once in a while, a loving or tender touch can produce an uncomfortable static shock. Move gently and watch emotional cues. Although your intentions may be good, any possessiveness or desire to control might provoke a painful reaction.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Even with all the ways we can contact each other, important things may fall through the cracks and never get heard. Rather than reacting to someone's unintended silence, you could opt to reach out to them directly to clarify the situation.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** You might achieve your goals with more energy and effort than you expected. Think of the price you're willing to pay to reach the most valued version of your dream. There may be a way to achieve success without compromising your standards.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** Being too straightforward might not come across the way you imagined. Sometimes, softening the truth could be kinder than being brutally honest. A friend may be in need of support while another loved one could be feeling neglected.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** A careful response may be necessary if you're triggered. Some people might believe they can only be big if they make you small. Before moving forward, ask yourself if your reaction will change anything or make it uncomfortable.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** There's no need to further complicate a challenging situation. You may enjoy some downtime to catch your breath while steering clear of new relationships or purchases. You might shine when spontaneously giving advice or performing acts of kindness.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** Whether it's at home or at the office, you may feel a need for more emotional support than you've been getting. You could be looking for attention and the recognition you deserve. It's nice from others but you build more strength by validating yourself.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** You can sometimes benefit from giving in with good grace. Even gentle nudging from someone could become irritating or feel like nagging. It may seem OK to go with the flow but always pay attention to your intuition.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Before putting your financial situation in jeopardy, do your due diligence to verify the information you're basing your decisions on. Everyone may say they're the best, investigate to see if others agree after working with them.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** The ends may not justify the means. The quickest path to achieving your goals might involve being ruthless, but this will cost you respect and popularity. Reflect on what matters before you act; you might lust after what you can't have.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** Things may feel unbalanced. When you are confronted with challenging questions, consider all possible consequences, both personal and professional, that your decision could set in motion. Gather a general consensus before acting.

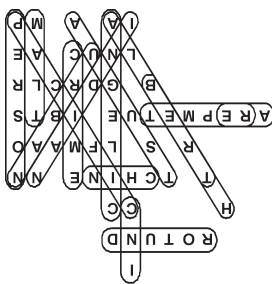
Sudoku solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 8 |
| 7 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| 1 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| 9 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| 8 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 5 |
| 4 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 9 |
| 8 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 6 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 4 |
| 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 1 |

Jumble solution

ELITE, SIGHT, BOLDLY, CANVAS  
The general wanted his son to help around the house, but it was a — LOSING BATTLE

Sleuth solution





# WNBA’s Delle Donne retires after 11 seasons, 2019 title

**BY DOUG FEINBERG**  
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Elena Delle Donne is officially retiring from professional basketball after not playing last year and dealing with injuries and illnesses throughout her entire career.

When healthy, she was a force on the court, winning two WNBA MVPs, making seven All-Star appearances in 11 seasons and helping the Washington Mystics win a league championship in 2019.

Delle Donne, 35, made the announcement on social media Friday and referenced a line from one of her favorite childhood books that reads, “How did it get so late so soon?”

“I have asked myself that over and over again in the process of coming to the decision to retire from playing basketball,”

Delle Donne wrote on Instagram. “Being able to say that out loud was one of the hardest parts of my career. My body seemed to make this decision before my mind accepted it, but I now truly know this is the right thing for me at the right time.”

The Mystics soon after her announcement said that Delle Donne would be a special advisor to the Monumental Sports group that owns the Mystics and Wizards.

“Elena Delle Donne has been a transformative force for the Washington Mystics and women’s basketball,” Monumental Sports & Entertainment Chairman and CEO Ted Leonsis said. “A champion and MVP on and off the court, her legacy as a player, leader, and ambassador will leave a permanent

mark on the game, and on generations of young women, for years to come.”

The second overall pick in 2013 by Chicago, Delle Donne spent a dozen years as one of the faces of the WNBA. She played the last six seasons in Washington, helping the Mystics win the franchise’s first championship in 2019.

“She put us over the top,” former Mystics coach Mike Thibault told The Associated Press. “We were trying to build to where we could have a team that somebody like her would want to play with and we could win the championship that she was seeking and that we were seeking.”

Delle Donne was instrumental in the title run despite playing with three herniated discs in her back. That season she had

the only 50-40-90 season in league history when she shot 51.5% from the field, 43% from behind the 3-point line and 97.4% from the foul line.

“She had one of the purest shooting forms ever,” Thibault said. “We had NBA guys with the Wizards who didn’t want to be in shooting drills with her.”

Thibault recounted the many hours Delle Donne spent in the gym trying to maintain her body while dealing with an assortment of injuries and illness like Lyme disease.

“After her back surgeries, she had a lot of days in the arena that started at 6 a.m. and when other players were done she was still doing another treatment or massage or whatever it would take to be able to play,” Thibault said.

She opted out of the

2020 season that was played in Florida because of the coronavirus pandemic because of health concerns and then turned down a contract from the team in February 2024 to step away from basketball.

Delle Donne, who also won an Olympic gold medal with USA Basketball in 2016, averaged 19.5 points and 6.7 rebounds in 241 regular-season games, although she was never able to play a full season.

She also played in 40 playoffs games, where she averaged 17.9 points, 6.1 boards and 2.3 assists.

Delle Donne came onto the scene in high school as one of the most sought after recruits in the country. She originally committed to UConn before deciding at the last minute to come home to Delaware to be closer to her sister.

After she stepped away from basketball to play volleyball her first year at the school, she missed the sport too much and came back to play hoops.

She helped Delaware reach unprecedented heights in her time there and finished with more than 3,000 points in her career.

“Words cannot adequately express how thankful I am to my family, all of my incredible teammates, friends, executives, sponsors, staff and most importantly the amazing fans that have accompanied me on this journey,” she wrote. “This game has been my life, and I am grateful for the memories and how much it’s given me. It feels good to close this chapter knowing I gave it my all, and I can’t wait for what’s next!”

## TEXAS

FROM PAGE B5

trying to find a way to just stop the ball. Just wish I was a little closer to Brian. He made two birdies coming in. Still got a chance.”

Hoge might have had the most remarkable round because he didn’t post a single bogey. He was in the second group to tee off and noticed right away it was going to be a challenge, not so much the crackle of the flags but the hard bounces on the green. Into the wind, or with the wind at the players’ back, it wasn’t easy to get anything close.

The wind came out of an opposite direction from the previous two rounds.

“Just tried to make as

many pars as I could,” Hoge said. “Even the downwind holes right off the start on hole 1, I had a 56-degree wedge, I wasn’t sure I could hit the green with it because it was bouncing that much when I did land the green.”

Mitchell got the bounce and roll just right on the 10th hole when his ball stopped inches away for an easy birdie, and he holed a birdie putt from just inside 10 feet on the 12th. Hoge also birdied the 14th and 17th holes, the two easiest for scoring in the third round.

Only three other holes played under par.

Sam Ryder, who started with a 63, had eight 5s on his card and posted a 77 to go from playing in the final group to being out of contention.

Patrick Cantlay ended the front nine with a pair of bogeys, both times missing par putts from 5 feet or closer, and shot 74 to finish eight shots behind. Jordan Spieth was in the group another shot behind after a 73.

Harman could easily slid back to the pack as tough as it was on the front nine. He hit a great chip to a foot on the par-3 seventh, saved par from a bunker on the par-5 eighth and escaped with par on the ninth with a 6-foot putt.

“Just leaning on my short game today, chipped it in there close a few times,” Harman said. “The stat sheet won’t say it, but I made some solid par putts — 5-footers, 6-footers, 8-footers — that don’t show up as pretty. But they sure keep your round alive.”

## PLAY

FROM PAGE B1

“Definitely distribution, 100%,” Klein said. “My distribution currently, I mean, it’s not up to par with what I’m gonna need to be.”

“I think the sky’s the limit for him. He definitely has the build, he has the knowledge, and he has the soccer IQ. He knows what he needs to work on,” Boekeloo said. “He knows that he’s not just gonna show up and be the starter. But if he puts the right head on his shoulders and just gets to work and does all the dirty things, he can find himself competing for a starting spot. And he’s that type of kid that

once he gets that starting spot, he’s not giving it up.”

Klein plans to major in accounting and finance at Franklin. He said looking back on his time at Madison, it was the friendships that he made that he will remember the most.

“I really enjoyed all the friendships I made that I’m gonna have for many years, and the connections with coaches I made with different people,” Klein said. “The sectional championships were lovely and I loved winning them, but I really liked the friendship and the knowledge that I’m gonna take with me.”

(Information for this story was gathered by Jordan Bear.)

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B1

**VOLLEYBALL**

Madivson boys at Floyd Central, 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**

**BASEBALL**

Switzerland Co. hosts Jac-Cen-Del, 5:30 p.m.

Southwestern hosts Madison, 6 p.m.

**GOLF**

Hanover College men at Illinois College, 10 a.m.

**SOFTBALL**

Switzerland Co. hosts Jac-Cen-Del, 5 p.m.

Madison hosts Silver Creek, 5:30 p.m.

**TENNIS**

Madison girls host Salem, 5 p.m.

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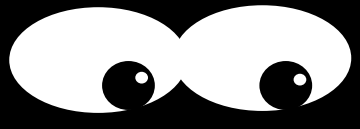
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